

ARMY



NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE
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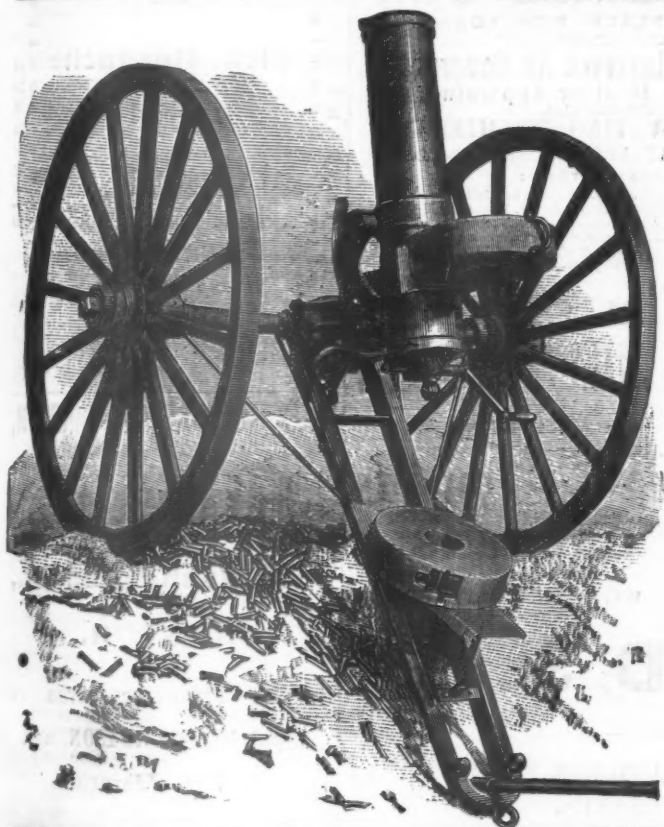
JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER
FORCES.

VOLUME XXI.—NUMBER 20.
WHOLE NUMBER 1069

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1884.

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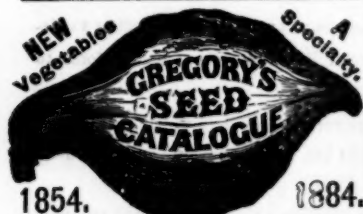
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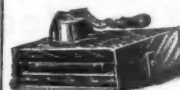
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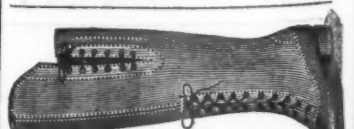
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ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL

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NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Naval Appropriation Bill was presented in the House, on Tuesday, by Mr. Hutchins, from the Committee on Appropriations. Mr. Hutchins explained that the estimates upon which the bill is passed aggregate \$22,655,500.38, of which amount the Committee recommended the appropriation of \$14,263,195.95, being a reduction of \$8,392,304.43 under the estimates. The amount appropriated for the Naval Service for the current fiscal year is \$15,894,434.23, being \$1,631,238.28 more than is recommended for the year 1885.

The bill makes provision for completing and equipping (except ordnance) the four steel cruisers in accordance with the estimates submitted by the Secretary. It appropriates nothing for continuing the work on the iron-clad monitors, but provides \$5,000 for their care and preservation when they shall have been turned over to the Government by the contractors, and reapropriates the unexpended balance of the appropriation for their engines and machinery, and applies the same to the use of the Bureau of Steam Engineering for the next fiscal year.

New legislation is recommended in the bill as follows: Hereafter none of the vacancies in the various grades in the line and in the staff corps of the Navy shall be filled by promotion until such grades shall be reduced to the numbers fixed for the several grades of the line and the staff corps of the Navy by the act of August 5, 1882, making appropriations for the Naval Service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes.

Provided, That all enlisted men and boys in the Navy, attached to any United States vessel or station, and doing duty thereon, and naval cadets, shall be allowed a ration or commutation thereof in money, under such limitations and regulations as the Secretary of the Navy may prescribe.

And from and after the passage of this act there shall be no appointments, except by promotion, to fill vacancies occurring in the list of commissioned officers of the Marine Corps until the number of such officers shall have been reduced by casualties or otherwise below seventy-five; and after the number of officers shall be reduced as above provided the whole number of commissioned officers on the active list in the Marine Corps shall not exceed seventy-five.

That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby directed to report to Congress at its next and each regular session thereafter the amount expended during the prior fiscal year from the appropriations for the pay of the Navy, Bureaus of Navigation, Ordnance, Equipment and Recruiting, Yards and Docks, Medicine and Surgery, Provisions and Clothing, Construction and Repair, and Steam Engineering, for civilians employed on clerical duty or in any other capacity other than ordinary mechanics and workmen and to submit under the estimates for pay of the Navy, and for the respective bureaus enumerated above, specific estimates for such civilian employees for the fiscal year 1886, and each fiscal year thereafter.

That no officer whose name is borne on the retired-list of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps shall hold position in the civil service or other employment of the Government, and draw the salary or compensation thereof together with his pay as a retired officer of the Army, Navy or Marine Corps: Provided, That any such retired officer accepting a position in the civil service or other employment of the Government may at the time of acceptance elect to take the salary of such position, or in lieu to retain his pay as a retired officer.

The bill also provides that no portion of the sums appropriated for the Bureau of Construction and Repair and Steam Engineering shall be applied to the repairs of any wooden ship, or the engines and machinery thereof, when the estimated cost of such repairs shall exceed 80 instead of 20 per cent., as heretofore provided, of the estimated cost of a new ship of the same size and like material or new engines and machinery of the same character and power.

The principal reduction from the estimates is in the following items:

Bureau of Navigation.—Navigation and Supplies: asked, \$130,000; allowed, \$75,000; outfit of steel cruisers and monitors, asked, \$60,000; allowed, \$30,000. Ocean surveys; asked, \$10,000; nothing allowed; publication of professional papers; asked, \$12,000; nothing allowed; civil establishment, \$6,000; nothing allowed; contingent; asked, \$4,000; allowed, \$3,000.

Bureau of Ordnance.—Ordnance and Ordnance stores; asked, \$453,210; allowed, \$100,000; Torpedo Corps; asked, \$105,000; allowed, \$50,000; civil establishment; asked, \$12,234.56; nothing allowed; repairs, asked, \$15,800; allowed, \$15,000.

Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting.—Equipment of vessels; asked, \$896,000; allowed, \$700,000; civil establishment; asked, \$18,251.75; nothing allowed.

Bureau of Yards and Docks.—Maintenance yards and docks; asked, \$420,000; allowed, \$200,000; contingent; asked, \$20,000; allowed, \$10,000; civil establishment, \$45,920.

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.—Repairs; asked, \$30,000; allowed, \$10,000. Civil establishment; asked, \$40,000; allowed, \$20,000.

Bureau of Provisions and Clothing.—Asked, \$1,200,000; allowed, \$1,100,000. Contingent; asked, \$60,000; allowed, \$30,000. Civil establishment; asked, \$12,411.50. Nothing allowed.

Bureau of Construction and Repair.—Construction and Repair; asked, \$1,750,000; allowed, \$1,000,000. Civil establishment; asked, \$36,927.75; allowed, \$20,000.

Bureau of Steam Engineering.—Steam machinery; asked, \$1,200,000; allowed, \$750,000. Civil establishment; asked, \$23,234.50. Nothing allowed.

Increase of Navy: asked, \$7,449,581.63; allowed, \$1,675,100. Naval Academy; Pay asked, \$101,125.45; allowed, \$98,829.45. Contingent; asked, \$45,500; allowed, \$44,400. Pay of Marine Corps; asked, \$667,275; allowed, \$656,075. Provisions, etc.; Marine Corps; asked, \$266,413.56; allowed, \$209,186.50. Pay of the Navy and contingent; asked, \$7,382,605; allowed, \$7,307,605. The following were allowed as estimated for, viz.: Compass testing house, \$7,000; Contingent, Bureau of Ordnance, \$3,000; do. Bureau of Equipment, \$10,000; transportation and recruiting, \$25,000; Medicine department, \$40,000; contingent, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, \$25,000; Naval hospital fund, \$30,000; contingent, Bureau of Steam Engineering, \$1,000; Naval Academy, repairs and improvement, \$31,000; heating and lighting, \$17,000. The appropriations asked for in 1884 and not in 1883 amounted to \$1,120,000. For the Naval Asylum \$92,251 was asked and \$59,813 allowed.

The total estimates for 1885 were.....	\$22,655,500.38
Total appropriations for 1884.....	15,894,434.23
Amount in this bill for 1885.....	14,263,195.95
Reduction under estimates.....	8,392,304.43
Reduction under law for 1884.....	1,631,238.28

Mr. Calkins, of Indiana, who is a member of the Committee on Appropriations, spoke against some features of the bill in which he did not concur. He objected especially to the provision that no vacancies should be filled in any grade of the Navy until the minimum is reached, which has heretofore been fixed by law. He said that the effect of that will be that the officers of the Navy in their present rank will stand perfectly still for a period of five or seven years, and there will be no more promotions made in the Navy during that period. If, however, the law is allowed to remain as it now is, in from ten to twelve years the reduction will have been effected, and meanwhile promotions will be gradually made in the line and staff. I think that a wise provision. At the proper time I shall move to strike out this provision in the present bill so as to allow the law to stand as it was last year and in 1880.

He read a letter from the Hon. Richard T. Merrick in which he said:

"This subject was very fully considered when the act of 1882 was before Congress, and it was finally determined that promotion should be made to fill the alternate vacancies only until the respective grades should be reduced as indicated. This interruption of the regular order of promotion was deemed a very severe grievance by the officers in the service, but the measure now prepared is oppressive and an undeniable hardship. Is the organization of the Navy never to be at rest? Does the public good require that the officers in the service should be in perpetual apprehension that each succeeding Congress is to impair their rights, dampen their hopes, and diminish their prospects of usefulness and advancement? Is there to be no end to personal legislation in regard to this branch of the public service. If the proposition referred to should become a law, the young men now in the service, and who entered it under the assurance of then existing statutes, that they could expect a reasonable advance in rank as life progressed must abandon that hope and content themselves with the dreary prospect of growing gray before they reach even the grade of lieutenant, and certainly before ever getting beyond it. It seems to me that the proposed legislation is revolting to a natural feeling of justice."

Mr. Calkins thought it unwise to cut down the appropriation of the Bureau of Navigation so as to prevent its spending the money saved on pilotage for charts, compasses, and other articles useful to the Navy. He urged that the Bureaus of Construction and Repair and Steam Engineering should be consolidated, with a competent engineer in charge. As to the consolidation of the Bureaus of Equipment and Recruiting, Mr. Calkins said: "Equipment necessarily involves the purchase of various articles for the Navy. I see no reason myself why the purchase of these supplies should not be made by the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing (a bureau which is also engaged largely in buying supplies of different kinds for the Navy.) The other head, that of Recruiting, can be consolidated with the Bureau of Navigation, which relates properly to this subject. This would merge that bureau into the two named and we would thus get rid of a useless bureau. This consolidation would be a matter of economy, would bring the different branches of our naval administration closer together, would involve less machinery, and I believe would be a lasting benefit to the Navy."

Mr. Calkins thought the *Monadnock* should be completed, and objected to allowing the money appropriated for this purpose to be put into the general fund for the Bureau. He said: "If that is done it will put a stop to the work on the *Monadnock*. And that is the purpose of it. There is no concealment made about it. I am decidedly of the opinion that for the benefit of the Pacific coast the *Monadnock* ought to be put in as forward a state of completion as the three monitors for the Atlantic coast. I would not divert this \$172,000 into the general fund and thereby stop the work on the *Monadnock*. And when the proper time comes I shall move to strike that provision out of this bill, leaving the Secretary of the Navy \$172,000 to proceed with the work on that vessel."

He called attention to the omission of an appropriation for the armament of the new cruisers, which he said, "amounts to this, that we will soon have four steel cruisers upon the ocean in the service of this country as war ships carrying no guns. Of course we have some wooden—well, I said wooden, and I scarcely

need change that remark—we have some old guns that we could put on these ships, but they are comparatively worthless to the country and to the Navy, and certainly unfit to be classed as armament for these cruisers. I think in fact, we might just as well put 'Quaker guns' upon them."

Mr. Randall called attention to the appropriation of \$234,000 of last year for Ordnance.

Mr. Calkins—That allotment was made, no doubt, and the money expended or is in process of being expended for the purpose indicated—

Mr. Randall—Then these cruisers will not be entirely without armament, even if there was no general provision in the bill covering that item.

Mr. Calkins—But the point I make is this, that taking this allotment of \$200,000 set aside for ordnance, it would be entirely insufficient to arm these four vessels; it is not enough to complete the armament; and if we do not make an appropriation to continue it the work must cease and will cease. That is my suggestion.

In opposition to the proposed reduction of the Marine Corps, Mr. Calkins presented a memorandum furnished by the Navy Department, and said: "For years there has been a constant tinkering with the officers of the Navy, both of the line and of the staff. There is a feeling of unrest, of discontent and uncertainty among those officers all the time. One Congress convenes and declares one policy, and the next Congress comes along and overturns it, and so we have been going on for years."

He also presented tables showing the following comparison of the officers in the Navy at various periods, of which he said: It will be seen from the inspection of the foregoing tables that the number of officers of the line in 1842 was 1,984, and in 1884 the total number is 799, a reduction of 285 officers of the line. The staff has increased by two or three hundred officers.

It will be seen by an inspection of this statement that there were more officers of the line in 1842 than there are to-day. The total number of officers of the line in 1842 was 1,984, and in 1884 the total number is 799, a reduction of 285 officers of the line. The staff has increased by two or three hundred officers.

Mr. White, of Kentucky. May I ask the gentleman the source of that information.

Mr. Calkins. This statement was prepared by a friend of mine, a naval officer, whose name I do not care to give.

I want to say further to my friend that my judgment is that this is the proper time to commence cutting down the number of officers of the Pay Department. For instance, there are thirteen pay directors and twelve pay inspectors. Those officers have too much rank to permit their going to sea in a vessel, because they would rank the commanding officer of the vessel; and there are not enough vessels in the Navy to enable us to send them out in fleets where the commander of the fleet would rank them. They are consequently kept on shore. My judgment is that each grade should be reduced to five in number, and there kept.

The House will not resume consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill until next Tuesday.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

ALTHOUGH high and out of reach of the floods, we are not dry by any means, and are patiently waiting for a glimpse of the sun. Soldiers are supposed to laugh at the caprices of the weather, but the sentry on duty through the dark hours of the night prefers to see the moon, if it is just the same to the Signal Bureau.

Prof. and Mrs. Bars give an entertainment at the officers' mess Thursday evening. Many invitations have been issued, and an enjoyable evening is undoubtedly in store for the guests. Mrs. Merritt gave a hop at her house on last Saturday evening. A majority of the members of the first class had the bad taste, and worse manners, to decline, on account of some alleged official grievance against the superintendent. Their action did not in the least interfere with the success of the party. A more uncalled for proceeding towards a lady who has been exceedingly kind to them cannot be imagined.

The regular hop has been postponed until Tuesday week. We have heard rumors of some theatricals, but plays do not seem to take kindly to our atmosphere. We have plenty of talent, but New York is too convenient.

Capt. Dougherty, 23d Infantry, visited the post on Sunday, the guest of Lieut. Casey.

It is felt here that the Army should have a part in the Greeley relief expedition. Army officers and Army men are in peril. Many of their comrades are willing and anxious to go to their assistance. We are willing to give the Navy control of the maritime part of the expedition, but the minute the limit of navigation is reached and land work begins, the Army should have control; Army officers and soldiers are better prepared for that part of the work than naval men.

We are anxious to see the Military Academy Appropriation bill, and want to know what petty economy Congress has been forcing on us.

Col. Wood's monument has been removed to the cemetery. Cap cords are becoming quite numerous on the post. They are submitted to, but not approved.

LIEUT. J. W. DANENHOWER, U. S. N., arrived in New York on Thursday, and took quarters at the Grand Hotel, to await the arrival of the remains of Lieut.-Commander De Long and party.

PERSONAL ITEMS

LIEUTENANT James L. Wilson, 4th U. S. Artillery, left Fort Trumbull, Conn., this week, to be absent for a fortnight.

The reception at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, on Thursday of this week, was if anything more brilliant than usual and was attended by numerous Army officers and the ladies of their families from the forts in the harbor.

CAPTAIN Joseph B. Campbell, 4th U. S. Artillery, who was in Albany, N. Y., last week, visited friends in New York and vicinity this week, and will return to Fort Monroe, Va., towards the end of February.

COLONEL John Mendenhall, U. S. A., rejoined at Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, early in the week, from a short trip New Yorkward.

ASSISTANT Surgeon C. L. Helzmann, U. S. A., travelling in Europe, was at Barcelona, Spain, when last heard from.

We are glad to learn that the condition of Rear Admiral Reed Warden, U. S. N., of Newport, R. I., is reported to be somewhat improved.

CAPTAIN R. G. Howell, 2nd U. S. Artillery, and bride, now on their wedding tour, will return to Washington Barracks, D. C., early in March.

LIEUTENANT General Sheridan, has accepted an invitation to review the parade in Brooklyn on "Decoration Day," next May 30, 1884.

LIEUTENANT Colonel J. J. Coppinger, 18th U. S. Infantry, was expected at Fort Assiniboine, Montana, this week, to take command of the regiment and post.

LIEUTENANT J. P. Cummings, 3rd Cavalry, and W. L. Clarke, 23rd Infantry, "ceased to be officers of the Army" on Friday of this week. The Court-martial proceedings in their cases are given elsewhere.

CAPTAIN J. H. Bradford, 19th U. S. Infantry, is at Wilmington, Del., called there from Texas by the recent death of his father, Judge J. H. Bradford.

CHAPLAIN Geo. G. Mullins, U. S. A., of St. Louis, in charge of "Education in the Army," has been quite ill with congestion of the lungs, but at last accounts was improving rapidly.

CAPTAIN B. H. Rogers, 13th Infantry, who has been on leave for some time in the East, latterly at Newport, R. I., was to start this week for his post, Fort Stanton, N. M.

MAJOR J. K. Mizner, 4th Cavalry, succeeds to the command of Fort Craig, N. M., now that Lieut. Col. Lazelle has gone to the Pacific coast for duty with Gen. Pope.

CAPTAIN J. B. Parke, 10th U. S. Infantry, entered upon temporary duty at Fort Wayne, Mich., this week, awaiting an opportunity to reach his permanent station, Fort Brady, Sault Ste. Marie.

COLONEL J. S. Mason, 9th U. S. Infantry, on leave from Fort D. A. Russell, with Mrs. Mason, arrived in New York this week, and will visit Washington and other places before they return.

LIEUT. W. R. Abercrombie, 2d U. S. Infantry, is located temporarily at Vancouver Barracks, looking after rifle practice matters.

LIEUT. E. B. Ives, 19th Infantry, has taken station at San Antonio, Texas, for a few weeks.

COLONEL A. C. M. Pennington, U. S. A., rejoined at Fort Trumbull, Conn., the latter part of this week, from a brief leave of absence.

MAJOR J. G. C. Lee and Capt. John Simpson, U. S. A., have rejoined at San Antonio from a trip to Austin, Texas, on civil business.

COLONEL J. E. Tourtellotte, U. S. A., will remain in St. Louis for some time to arrange his affairs, having secured a leave of absence until February, 1885.

ADVICES from St. Petersburg state that Minister Hunt is quite ill.

At an entertainment at the Casino, Newport, R. I., a few days ago, for the benefit of a local charity, Mrs. W. McCarty Little sang three songs in a very clever manner, and was heartily applauded; and Captain Arthur Morris, U. S. A., of Ft. Adams, gave a monologue on "The Mule," which provoked roars of laughter.

A DESPATCH from Ottawa states that Gen. Liard, of the British Army, commander of the forces in Canada, seems to have got along badly with the Provincial authorities, and has resigned his command, and is likely to be appointed to a command in Africa.

As soon as his duties will permit, Lieut. G. B. Harber, U. S. N., will be tendered a public reception in the Opera House, at his home, Youngstown, Ohio.

MAJOR Carpenter and Captain Montgomery, of the 5th Cavalry, and Captain Lord, of the Quartermaster's Department, will meet at Cheyenne early in March to purchase a lot of remounts for the cavalry troops in the Platte.

GENERAL Thomas H. Ruger, U. S. A., on leave from Helena, registered at the Colonnade Hotel, Philadelphia, early in the week.

CETTYWAYO is reported to have died of heart disease.

The Medical Society of Kings County, New York, has had printed in pamphlet form, for general distribution, the excellent paper on "Reparative Surgery," by Surgeon F. B. Stephenson, U. S. Navy, read before it January 15, 1884.

LIEUT. H. C. Hodges, 2d U. S. Infantry, recently visiting relations in New York, has joined his company at Fort Lewis, Colorado.

UNDER recent orders Captain J. C. Gilmore and Lieuts. J. J. Brereton and B. W. Leavell, 24th Infantry, are added to the garrison circle of Fort Supply, Ind. Territory—their places at Fort Elliott, Tex., being filled by Lieuts. H. S. Foster and F. D. Sharp, of the 20th Infantry.

A PARIS correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, writing Jan. 23, says: "The crowd at Mrs. Morton's reception, Jan. 22, was unprecedentedly great. No invitations had been issued, specially, but, like all important events, it had been noised about that Captain Phythian, U. S. N., would then and there present the Korean Mission to 'His Excellency and lady.' It was a solemn moment, and Mr. Brulatour was quite pale with pleased emotion as he accompanied the gallant captain of the *Trenton* from the door to the centre of that group; but he was equal to the occasion, and everybody there present predicted from his bearing and ease of manner a bright diplomatic future to the young secretary, and, when they had smiled approval upon him, all turned to stare at the strangers."

CAPT. D. H. Cortelyou, U. S. A., retired, of Staten Island, has been placed in nomination for Supervisor of Westfield, Richmond County, New York.

THE Army Register for 1884 shows a total of 2126 Commissioned Officers on the active list, with 6 vacancies.

GEN. AUGUR still has but one aide on his staff—his son, Lieut. Colon Augur—and Gen. Crook has not yet made any permanent appointments of aides.

LOUIS Duane Ferriss, son of 2d Auditor Ferriss, who recently resigned from the Naval Academy, has gone to Texas to engage largely in sheep raising.

PATMR. G. R. Watkins, U. S. Navy, registered at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, early in the week.

THE Chicago Tribune publishes the following letter from the Hon. Leonard Swett, one of Abraham Lincoln's closest friends before and after his nomination:

As the question of Fitz John Porter is now occupying public attention, a conversation I once had with Mr. Lincoln upon the question seems pertinent. I was standing in his room in the White House, near the foot of the long table behind which he sat, his standing with me and we talking upon some subject foreign to the one he introduced, when he called my attention to a large record, a pile of manuscript, lying near us on the table. "That," said he, "is the record in the Fitz John Porter case." The trial had then just closed and the record of the evidence taken in it was, as I understood, before him for action. "You know," said he, "if I know anything it is what evidence tends to prove and when a thing is proved. I have read every word in that record, and I tell you Fitz John Porter is guilty and ought to be shot." He then added something, the words of which I cannot remember, but the substance was he was willing the poor soldiers should die while he, from sheer jealousy, stood with hearing of their guns, waiting for Pope to be whipped. I know nothing of Fitz John Porter's case, but have deemed it my duty, as I happened to hear this conversation, to make it public.

CAPT. H. G. Sharpe, U. S. A., of the Subsistence Department, for some time past on temporary duty with General Small, in New York City, goes to West Point to take charge of subsistence matters there. He will find many of his old-time friends still at the Point to greet him.

EX-SENATOR Bruce, of Mississippi, in New York, a few days ago said in an interview, on political matters, at the Hoffman House: "I haven't a doubt that General W. T. Sherman could be elected easily and triumphantly. He has been resting on his laurels, making no antagonisms. He has no enemies to fight him. His friends are numerous and strong men. But he says positively he will not have it. I saw only yesterday a letter he wrote to General Van Vliet, who was his companion at West Point and in the Army. In his letter he says emphatically that he does not propose to give up his life position on the retired list for four years of perdition. For all that, if nominated in spite of his objections, I think he would accept. What American would not?"

REFERRING to the recent death of Mrs. Merchant, widow of General C. S. Merchant, U. S. A., a correspondent of the New York Tribune, says: "It is a strange though sad coincidence that General John A. Dix and General Merchant were both lieutenants in the same company of the Artillery in 1814, at the beginning of their military career. I think General Dix died in the summer of 1879 in New York City, and General Merchant died in December 1879 at Carlisle, Penn. Mrs. Merchant, the widow of General Merchant, died at Carlisle, Penn., Sunday morning, and Mrs. Dix, the widow of Gen. Dix, died at her home in New York City Sunday evening. They were ladies of the old school, by birth and education, dearly beloved by and endeared to their families and friends, an honor and example to social life and world that while they had and held the love and devotion of their own and those who knew them, will bear its fruit in days to come in the life and happiness of men and women who can or who will find time to wait or think. We must accept their deaths as a worldly loss, but a heavenly gain."

THE Vancouver Independent, of Jan. 31, says:

Capt. S. P. Jocelyn returned to Fort Townsend on Friday.... Lt. O. F. Long, Aide-de-camp, has gone to Fort Townsend on Court-martial duty.... Lt. Goethals, Engineer Corps, has gone to Fort Stevens and Canby on public business.... Gen. and Mrs. Miles were "at home" to the officers and ladies of the post last evening.... Lt. C. E. S. Wood, 21st Inf., is the father of a bouncing boy, who arrived this week.... Born—to Gen. Howard's daughter, wife of Capt. Jan. T. Gray, at Vancouver, W. T., Jan. 29th, a daughter.... We are glad to learn that the health of Lt. J. M. Ross, 21st Inf., now on sick leave at Winchester, Va., is improving.... Lt. W. R. Abercrombie, 2d Inf., has been temporarily detailed in the office of the instructor of musketry.... Dr. Bevan, of the U. S. Marine Hospital Service, formerly stationed at Detroit, Mich., has arrived in Portland.... The wedding of Miss Frances Burnside and Mr. E. L. Canby took place at Trinity Church in Portland, Wednesday evening, Jan. 23d. The bride is the eldest daughter of one of the oldest Portland families, and is herself a native of Portland. Captain S. P. Jocelyn, U. S. A., attended the groom as best man, and the ushers were Mr. John Lewis, Dr. F. B. Eaton, Lieut. J. S. Parke, U. S. A., and Mr. James Canby.

CAPT. T. B. Hunt, U. S. A., on leave until further orders, has located in Washington to await the day of retirement.

Our latest advices from Whipple Barracks report the Rotting Board, in the case of Lieut. J. F. Simpson, 3d Cav., as still in session, with Capt. J. G. Bourke as Recorder, but doubtless by this time it has terminated its proceedings.

CAPT. J. W. Bean, 15th U. S. Inf., is a recent visitor to St. Paul with quarters at the Metropolitan Hotel.

A LEAVENWORTH correspondent referring to the recent reception of Mrs. Custer and Mrs. Calhoun by the Michigan G. A. R., encampment, an account of which we gave recently, says: "This is all very well, but why not do something to honor the heroes who went down with Custer in the way of erecting a monument over their graves? Tom Custer, Smith, Calhoun, McIntosh and brave Keogh all lie buried at the Fort Leavenworth National cemetery and there is nothing to mark their resting place but a cheap John Government headstone. Something ought to be done by the officers of the Army to start a fund for such a purpose."

FROM Siam comes word that Siam's king has ordered the purchase of American arms, and the employment of American Army officers for the instruction of his army.

COLONEL Mendell, of the Corps of Engineers, having recommended that certain appropriations asked for certain harbors in California be not granted, the San Francisco Report says:

We send our Representatives to Washington to get for us as large a piece of the pie that is being cut, as they can. We are hungry for pie and we must have it. We don't thank Colonel Mendell; or anybody else for certifying that we are not in need of pie, that we can get along just as well as without it.

THE dance last Saturday night at the Naval Academy possessed the features of a leap year hop given by the ladies of the Academy and of Annapolis as a compliment to their gentlemen friends. It was the first of the kind held in four years, and proved an enjoyable event in social circles. The ladies predominated in numbers, and no less than six young brides were on the floor.

RECENT expeditions to the Everglades bring to mind previous expeditions made over forty years ago, an account of which appeared in a History of the Florida War, by Colonel J. T. Sprague, U. S. Army, which was published by D. Appleton and Co., in 1848. Rear Admiral Preble, U. S. N., also has an interesting diary of a 60 days' canoe expedition in the Everglades in 1842.

THE Egyptian question, which is now exciting so much attention in Europe and this country, will be discussed by Gen. W. W. Loring, Pasha, in a paper entitled "What will Become of Egypt," in "The Manhattan," for March. Gen. Loring's service of ten years under the Khedive Ismail, during which he conducted the campaign against the Abyssinians, makes the General one of the greatest living authorities on all matters relating to Egypt.

EL MAHDI is described as 40 years of age. He is a man of middle stature; his color is "cafe au lait clair;" his beard is very black, and he bears upon each cheek three parallel scars. He is extremely thin, for he disciplines himself by very rigorous fasting. Before setting out on his new career he dwelt in a hole in the ground, where, he says, he wept continually over the universal corruption.

A DISCUSSION having arisen in the Toledo Blade as to whether the Army of the Potomac refused to charge the enemy the second time at the battle of Cold Harbor when ordered to do so, stated in histories of the late Civil War, Gen. Grant was appealed to and replied, Feb. 7, as follows:

I will say that I never gave any order to any army that commanded during the rebellion to make an attack where it was disobeyed. It is possible, but I do not remember the circumstances, that I have given an order for an attack for a certain hour and afterward concluded that it would be better, possibly, not to make it, and have sent orders countermanding it, but I do not remember that any such circumstances as that took place at Cold Harbor.

CHIEF Engineer A. J. Kiersted, U. S. N., is expected at the Norfolk Navy Yard to take charge of the Steam Engineering Department.

THE Alta California extends to Lieut. C. A. L. Totten, 4th U. S. Art., and his family, in their recent bereavement (the death of Mrs. Totten), the sympathies of "many warm friends on the Pacific coast."

LIEUT. Jas. A. Maney, 15th U. S. Infantry, was a guest at Merchant's Hotel, St. Paul, a few days ago, on his return to Fort Buford, D. T., from leave.

LIEUT. L. H. Walker, 4th U. S. Artillery, having recovered from his recent injuries, availed himself on Monday of a week's vacation.

LIEUT. Clarence Deems, 4th U. S. Art., at Fort Adams, R. I., was expected the latter part of this week at Ft. Preble, Me., on a brief visit.

THE Leavenworth Times says:

Major James R. Wasson, late U. S. A., will be released from the penitentiary probably Feb. 10. He has advice from Washington by letter that he may expect an order from the President at that time for his release. After receiving the information Major Wasson's friends ordered an elegant suit of clothing for him. His release will probably open up some of the questions discussed before the Court-martial and will lead to further investigations; so some of his friends think. They say he asked for certain of his letters which were in possession of the War Department, and, being refused, Congressman Kisson, of Iowa, and others went to Secretary Lincoln, and stating the facts to him obtained the letters desired. Major Wasson has not shirked any duty imposed upon him during his imprisonment. He has surveyed the State road from the penitentiary to the city and has corrected many errors made in the establishment of former levels. He surveyed the ground for the water works at the prison and has rendered valuable service as an engineer in many minor departments about the premises.

We learn that the Times is mistaken as to the release of Wasson.

LIEUT. D. Delehanty, U. S. N., attached to the Adams, at Sitka, has been in San Francisco recently, undergoing treatment for deafness.

LIEUT. Peter Campbell, 18th U. S. Infantry, projects a trip abroad, at an early date, to be absent for several months.

THE Leavenworth Times says: "Gen. Candy, the chief clerk in the Quartermaster's office, Headquarters Department of the Missouri, carries no doubtful title, by any means. Although but 1st sergeant of dragoons when the war broke out, he rose to the command of a brigade, and held a commission as brigadier general of volunteers."

Capt. G. C. Smith, of the Quartermaster's Department, now closing up business at Portland, Oregon, will likely be ordered to an Eastern post in the early summer.

CHICAGO promised an interesting military display on Thursday evening of this week, under the auspices of its 1st Regiment of Cavalry. Among the invited guests are Secretary Lincoln, General Sherman, and General Sheridan.

MAJOR David Perry, 6th U. S. Cav., lately relieved from special duty at Gen. Hancock's headquarters at Governor's Island, has recently taken command at Fort Bowie, Arizona.

LI HUNG CHANG, the great Chinese statesman, whom Gen. Grant thought one of the four ablest men he met in his trip around the world, recently said in a public address that the religion of Jesus must be a power for good, as it leads its followers to such deeds of true philanthropy and charity.

JULIUS VERNER has ordered the construction by a firm at Nantes of a large sailing vessel, in which he intends to make a cruise in the Antarctic Seas to collect materials for future romances.

THE *Pioneer Press* contains the following New York "special": "The sudden rise in the stock of the Oregon and Transcontinental last Monday and Tuesday put money into the purses of a good many who were holders of the stock and never expected to realize. A lieutenant of infantry, who is well known here bought one thousand shares the preceding Friday on a margin of \$1,500, and came out Monday with a clean profit of \$13,000. The gentleman is fortunate in cold operations, and four years ago he won \$9,600 in Paris from a member of the Jockey Club, at one sitting, and brought the money home with him. He is still a second lieutenant, and although worth \$50,000, he remains in the Army, because he likes the service." These fortunate officers had better compare notes with other officers of the Army who bought at high figures this stock which is now quoted at about 20, and which has within a year sold for four times the present price.

GEN. Slocum's duties in Congress have compelled him to resign his place as trustee of the Brooklyn Bridge. The great bridge has certainly not been a financial success. The total receipts since the bridge was opened up to February 1, were \$226,303.94. Of this amount the railroad earned \$126,032, foot passengers paid \$47,705, vehicles \$52,322, and \$244.84 was received in interest and for materials sold. The expenses during the same period were \$179,343.63, showing net earnings of less than \$100,000 a year to pay the interest on the investment of fifteen millions.

MR. John Holmes, of Holmes' Hole, Mass., on the 28th of January wrote to Captain McRitchie, commanding U. S. S. *Speedwell*, informing him that a resolution had been introduced into the Massachusetts Legislature, recognizing in a suitable manner the services of the cutter and the Gay Head men in rendering assistance at the wreck of the *City of Columbus*.

It is stated that when General Gordon—Chinese Gordon—telegraphed to the British War Office for permission to accept the mission to the Congo, the answering telegram read: "Secretary of State for War decides to allow appointment." On his arrival in London, General Gordon called at the War Office to express his thanks, much to the bewilderment of the officials, for the telegram, as originally despatched really ran thus: "Secretary of State for War declines to allow appointment." On learning the state of the case Gen. Gordon at once resigned his commission. But permission to accept the appointment was subsequently given.

Mrs. Ex-President Hayes has one of the finest poultry yards in the country. Apropos to which we may say that a distinguished member of the Ordnance Corps informs us that having just registered the ten thousandth request for a pair of "these game chickens," for which he is famous, his supply is for the moment exhausted.

GEN. Hastings, who married a niece of Mrs. President Hayes, lives in the Bermudas, and devotes himself to the raising of water-lilies, of which this year he has more than two hundred thousand coming on.

THE Alpine climber, Edward Whymper, intends to attempt the ascent of Mount Kilima Njaro, in equatorial Africa.

COL. E. C. Mason, U. S. A., of Gen. Howard's staff, was to deliver a lecture at Omaha, on Friday evening of this week, before the Y. M. C. A., on "The Spirit of Chivalry."

REAR-ADMIRAL Preble, U. S. N., and Lieut. J. A. Buchanan, 14th U. S. Inf., registered in Philadelphia this week, the former at the Colonnade Hotel and the latter at the Lafayette.

COL. Edward Hatch, Capt. A. A. Harbach and Lieut. B. N. Getty, U. S. A., were at Fort Leavenworth this week on Court-martial service, and while there were guests of friends at the posts.

CAPT. J. C. Gilmore, 24th Inf., has rejoined at Fort Elliott, Texas, from leave.

CHIEF Engineer W. H. Shock, U. S. N., visited New York this week, locating at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

CAPT. Wells Willard, Subsistence Department, U. S. A., who has been residing in Brooklyn for some time past on sick leave, will shortly go to Fort Monroe, Va., to take charge of Subsistence matters there.

GEN. Chas. G. Sawtelle, U. S. A., of Washington, visited old friends in New York this week.

MEDICAL Storekeeper A. V. Chorbouner, U. S. A., of New York City, was a guest this week at Gny's Hotel, Baltimore, Md.

MAJOR C. J. Von Hermann, U. S. A., delivered Feb. 7, before the garrison of Fort Omaha, Neb., the first of an instructive series of lectures. His subject was "The Art of War."

REAR-ADMIRAL Emmons, U. S. N., was a pall-bearer at the funeral of the late Dr. Arnold Guyot, at Princeton, on Monday of this week.

LIEUT. Michael O'Brien, 4th U. S. Art., appeared before the Retiring Board at Fort Leavenworth the latter part of last week. While at the Fort he was the guest of Surgeon Freyer.

A GENERAL Court-Martial, with Col. Edward Hatch, 9th Cavalry, President, sat at Fort Leavenworth this week for the trial of Lieuts. A. T. Dean, 4th Cav., and W. E. P. French, 3d Inf. Lieut. Dean is charged with entering a gambling house in uniform and other offences, and Lieut. French with absence without leave.

THE New York committee to perfect arrangements for a civic funeral for Jerome J. Collins, of the *Jeannette* expedition, met on Monday and decided upon a partial programme. After the pontifical mass at the Cathedral the 69th Regiment will attend the body to the steamer which is to convey it to Ireland. Admission to the Cathedral will be by ticket.

GENERAL R. H. Jackson, U. S. A., of Fort Columbus, will command the battalion of artillery troops from the forts in New York Harbor designated to take part in the official ceremonies attendant upon the reception in New York of the remains of Lieut. De Long and party, which are expected early next week.

LIEUT. C. A. Doyen, Marine Corps, Professor Marshal Oliver and Boatswain William Anderson, were admitted to membership in the Navy Mutual Aid Association on Saturday last.

GEN. Horace Porter has been selected to deliver the oration, and John Savage the poem at the reunion of the Army of the Potomac in Brooklyn, on June 11 and 12 next. Gen. John Newton, the President of the Society, has appointed the following local Executive Committee: Generals Slocum, Molineux, Jordan, Pratt, Pinto, Woodford; Col. Truesdell, McLeer, Manchester, Platt; Majors Brueninghausen, Farley; Captain Ellis, Sergt. Henry Larowe, Corp. James Tanner, and ex-officio members, General McMahon, Treasurer; Gen. King, Recording Secretary, and Gen. Sharpe, Corresponding Secretary.

THE *London Truth* says it hears from St. Petersburg that for the last month the Czar has been in such a deplorable state of nervous depression that to all intents and purposes he may be regarded as insane. He is thoroughly terror-stricken, and lives in a state of panic which would be ludicrous if it did not produce such melancholy consequences. The present state of things in Russia cannot last many months, and what the issue will be no man can predict. The attitude of Russia towards Germany has become absolutely servile in its dependence.

"THE Retired List" is headed by Major-General James B. Ricketts, U. S. A., who was retired with that rank January 3, 1867, and ends (exclusive of the Chaplains) with Second Lieutenant Edward A. Benjamin, who was retired June 28, 1878, on account of injury in the line of duty.

A WASHINGTON correspondent of one of the daily papers says: "Poker-playing is one of the favorite diversions of Washington official life. There are two clubs in the War Department for friendly games. Secretary Lincoln belongs to the one that has Gen. McKee for its head. Mr. Lincoln is said to play a very steady, careful game. Since General Sheridan's arrival a second club has been formed. Sheridan is a very strong player, playing much as he fought—with a great deal of decision and dash. Col. Mike Sheridan, the poet of the General's staff, is also a very good player. The most active and enthusiastic of the official poker clubs, however, is in the Post Office Department, and Messrs. Gresham, Elmer and Hatton are the three leading players. Judge Gresham plays a very level-headed, careful game, but Frank Hatton is considered the best player in the Department.

Mrs. Attorney-General Brewster is a plump and handsome brunette; she has been more or less in public life ever since her father, Robert J. Walker, was Secretary of the Treasury. Her first marriage was unhappy, and ended in a divorce. After her father's death, and a season of work in the Treasury, she married her father's friend, Mr. Brewster, who is twenty years her senior. She has one son by Mr. Brewster, and her husband legally adopted and gave his name to her three other children. The Brewsters now occupy the residence of the late French Minister and Madame Outrey.

GENERAL Sheridan left Washington Wednesday night for New York to visit General Grant, to return on Saturday. The editor of the *Indianapolis Journal* spent half an afternoon with General Grant when in New York one day last week, and thus speaks of him in his paper: "He has his usual appetite for food—never very great—smokes and enjoys half a dozen or more cigars a day, looks as well in the face and eyes as though he had not been ill a day. He has lost neither flesh nor strength. His voice is as firm and his mind as clear and quick as it was at Shiloh or Appomattox. He discusses men, measures, and public affairs with the same clear perception and vigor as when he led the Armies of the Nation in the field or the deliberations of his Cabinet in council, and, in fact, he appears to enjoy the quiet and rest the enforced confinement to his house affords him. In short, General Grant's condition gives every evidence that the future has in store for him many years of mental and physical strength and vigor. The promise of long life was never fairer."

DUMONT, the artist who designed the statue of Napoleon for the Vendôme column, died a fortnight ago, in Paris, at the age of 82. He was also the artist of the statue of Liberty on the Bastille column, and sculptures by his hand are contained in the Louvre Palace of Justice.

Mrs. Arnold, of Ogdensburg, N. Y., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Augur, wife of General U. C. Augur, U. S. A., at Fort Leavenworth.

CESARE ORSINI, brother of Felix Orsini, the Italian who attempted to kill Louis Napoleon, has been appealed to by men who are described as "some anarchists in London," for permission to transfer the remains of his brother from Paris to Italy. It was evidently the design of these men thus to embarrass the Italian Government and foment agitation in the Romagna. Hence, the patriotic brother replied that, while regretting that the remains should lie in a foreign soil, mingled with those of criminals, he preferred this to their being perverted into an incitement to civil war.

THE following Army officers registered at the office of the Adjutant General Washington, D. C., during the current week: Lieut. George W. Kingsbury, 12th Inf., "The Lexington," on sick leave; Capt. Wm. P. Martin, Quartermaster's Dept., Ebbitt, on leave; Capt. John McGilvray, 2d Art., Washington Barracks, on duty; Captain Charles Bendire, 1st Cav., Ebbitt House, on leave; Lt.-Col. Glover Perin, Med. Dept., Riggs House on leave from Department of Dakota.

CADET Engineer Leopold has made application to the Navy Department to be detailed to one of the vessels of the Greely relief expedition.

THE *Norfolk Landmark* says: "Chief Engineer Thom. Williamson, U. S. N., has a great many friends here who will regret his departure."

THE trial of Captain A. S. B. Keyes, 10th Cavalry, at San Antonio, has been completed and the proceedings go to General Schofield, at Chicago, for his action.

CAPTAIN John Egan, 4th U. S. Artillery, left Fort Adams, R. I., early in the week on a seven days' leave.

AMONG those present at the annual dinner of the Bowdoin Alumni Association, of New York, at Delmonico's, on Wednesday evening, was Captain A. L. Varney, Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army.

PATMASTER C. F. Guild, U. S. Navy, registered at the St. James Hotel, New York, on Wednesday.

GENERAL J. C. Tidball, U. S. A., is contemplating numerous sanitary improvements at Fort Monroe, Va., and has lately been in consultation on the subject with Captain Wheeler, of the Quartermaster's Department, and Lieut. Russell, of the Corps of Engineers.

MISS Barry, a daughter of the late General W. F. Barry, U. S. A., is visiting friends at Old Point Comfort, Va.

A STATUE to Francis S. Key, the author of "The Star Spangled Banner," is to be erected in San Francisco.

STANDING Bear has returned from Washington to the Rosebud Agency, bearing with him the written statement of the Secretary of the Interior that he has full right to keep a store at the Agency.

LORD Landsdowne has been appointed Patron of the Rifle Association of the Dominion of Canada, in place of the Marquis of Lorne, and the Hon. George Kirkpatrick has been appointed President of the Association.

"CHINESE" Gordon, at latest accounts, was pushing on to Khartoum, and public opinion in England is tending to force the British Government from its position of comparative inaction with regard to affairs in the Sudan.

CAPTAIN S. T. Quabing, of the Subsistence Department, went from Washington to Pittsburg, Pa., this week, to oversee the distribution of Government supplies to the sufferers from the flood.

THURSDAY of this week, "St. Valentine's day," was Major-General Hancock's sixtieth birthday. The event was quietly, but duly, celebrated at Governor's Island.

COMMANDER Frederick Pearson, U. S. N., and his bride, sailed from New York for Liverpool, on the *Gallia*, on Wednesday of this week.

LIEUT. Boynton Leach, U. S. N., tried some time ago on the *Tennessee*, at Port au Prince, for drunkenness, and whose sentence to dismissal is now awaiting the action of Secretary Chandler, has been examined by a medical board with a view to prove that epilepsy, rather than drunkenness, was the cause of his disability. The Court unanimously recommended clemency, and there are hopes of a mitigation in view of the extenuating circumstances presented.

LOUIS COUNTER, who served in Battery F, 1st U. S. Artillery during the Mexican War, committed suicide in New York Feb. 4, and was afterwards buried in Potter's Field.

MISS Bella Bousal, daughter of Mr. W. C. Bousal, chief clerk to Gen. Wilson, U. S. A., of the Subsistence Department at Omaha, was married, Feb. 4, to Mr. Frank Gries, of San Antonio.

COMMODORE Mayo, U. S. N., returned to Norfolk a few days ago from a visit to City Point to inspect the monitors there.

At a recent civil service examination a young lady candidate committed what might be irreverently termed an Irish bull, if it were not too tender to be treated with levity, and which will remind one forcibly of what Artemus Ward said in regard to the conduct of the war. In reply to the question, "Did you serve in the Army or Navy during the war, or if not, state what service, if any, you rendered the Union, etc.?" her sad reply was, "I sacrificed an only brother's life!"

LIEUT. Commander T. A. Lyons and Lieutenant S. W. B. Diehl, U. S. N., will visit Brookline, Mass., for the purpose of inspecting compasses for the Navy at the observatory of Ritchie and Sons.

LIEUT. James A. Ohealey, U. S. N., has arrived at his home, Wakefield, New Hampshire.

ADJUTANT O. M. Smith, 22d Infantry, of Santa Fe, looked up old friends at Fort Leavenworth this week.

the specification reciting that, having sold his pay account for October, 1883, to Burnett and Smith of New York City, he afterwards sold a pay account for the same month to Thos. H. Norton and Co., of Wheeling, West Va. Charge 2. Making and causing to be presented a false and fraudulent claim against the U. S.—the specification reciting that, having sold one account for October, 1883, to Burnett and Smith, he sold another which was false and fraudulent, and was presented to an Army paymaster for payment. Lieut. Com-

ings pleaded guilty to the specifications, except so much as involved fraud, and not guilty of the charges. The court found him "guilty," and sentenced him "To be dismissed from the Service of the U. S." The proceedings, findings, and sentence of the G. C.-M. having been approved by the proper reviewing authority and the record forwarded, in accordance with the 106th Article of War, for the action of the President, the following are his orders indorsed thereon:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, February 5, 1884.

"The sentence in the foregoing case of 1st Lieutenant Joseph F. Cummings, 3d Cavalry, is hereby confirmed."

"CHESTER A. ARTHUR."

By direction of the Secretary of War the sentence in the case of 1st Lieut. Joseph F. Cummings, 3d Cav., will take effect Feb. 15, 1884, from which date he will cease to be an officer of the Army (G. C.-M. O. 9, Feb. 11, H. Q. A.)

4TH CAVALRY, Colonel William B. Royall.

Colonel W. B. Royall is detailed member of a Board to meet at Washington, D. C., March 1, to take into consideration certain improvements in cavalry equipments that will be referred to the Board by Lieut.-General Sheridan (S. O., Feb. 9, H. Q. A.)

5TH CAVALRY, Colonel Wesley Merritt.

Major Louis H. Carpenter and Capt. Robert H. Montgomery are detailed members of a Board to meet at Cheyenne, W. T., March 1, to purchase 150 cavalry horses (S. O. 14, Feb. 7, Div. M.)

Sixty recruits will be forwarded to the Dept. of Platte for assignment to the 5th Cav.

6TH CAVALRY, Colonel Eugene A. Carr.

Major David Perry is assigned to the command of Fort Bowie (S. O. 9, Jan. 30, D. Ariz.)

2d Lieut. C. B. Gatewood is relieved from duty as A. A. Q. M. in the field, and will transfer all property and funds pertaining thereto to 2d Lieut. H. M. Roach, 1st Inf., who is appointed in his stead (S. O. 10, Feb. 1, D. Ariz.)

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel Samuel D. Sturgis.

Leave of absence for two months is granted 2d Lieut. Baldwin D. Spilman, Fort Meade, D. T. (S. O. 15, Feb. 8, Div. M.)

Capt. Winfield S. Edgerly is appointed to act as inspector on certain camp and garrison equipage at the recruiting rendezvous, Cincinnati, Ohio (S. O., Feb. 9, H. Q. A.)

8TH CAVALRY, Colonel Elmer Otis.

The travel, to and from San Antonio, by Major R. F. Bernard and Capt. L. T. Morris, is necessary for the public service (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. Tex.)

In the case of Recruit Louis Eisner, Troop B, tried for desertion, General Schofield says: It is evident that the court based its conviction of the prisoner mainly upon the testimony of the sergeant-major of the post of Fort McIntosh, Tex., to the effect that the records of that post contained an entry in substance that the prisoner had deserted on the 27th of November, 1883. While this is evidence that the prisoner had been charged with desertion, it is not proof of the commission of the crime, (see G. O. 91, series of 1881, Headquarters of the Army, A. G. O.) Subject to these remarks, the proceedings are approved. Only so much of the findings as convicts the prisoner of absence without leave are approved (G. C.-M. O. 3, Jan. 23, D. Tex.)

9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.

1st Lieut. M. W. Day will proceed from Fort Elliott, Tex., to Fort Reno, I. T., and report for duty with the troop to which he has been promoted—I (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, Dept. M.)

Leave of absence for one month is granted Capt. Patrick O'neal, Fort Sill, I. T. (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, Dept. M.)

The extension of leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. Clarence A. Stedman, Adj., is further extended one month (S. O., Feb. 9, H. Q. A.)

Major Guy V. Henry is detailed member of a Board to meet at Washington, D. C., March 1, to take into consideration certain improvements in cavalry equipments that will be referred to the Board by Lieut.-General Sheridan (S. O., Feb. 9, H. Q. A.)

Leave of absence for one month is granted 2d Lieut. P. P. Powell, Fort Sill, I. T. (S. O. 30, Feb. 8, Dept. M.)

10TH CAVALRY, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.

Majors Anson Mills and Frederick Van Vleet, and Capt. J. M. Kelley and R. G. Smith, not being longer required as witnesses before the G. C.-M. at San Antonio, will return to their respective stations (S. O. 14, Feb. 5, D. Tex.)

The presence of Capt. A. S. B. Keyes being no longer required before the court at San Antonio, he will return to his proper station (S. O. 14, Feb. 5, D. Tex.)

1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel George P. Andrews.

1st Lieut. Henry L. Harris is assigned to duty with Light Bat. K till Feb. 16, when he will join his battery (A) at Alcatraz Island, Cal. (S. O. 15, Feb. 2, D. Cal.)

4TH ARTILLERY, Colonel Clement L. Best.

Leave of absence for fourteen days is granted 1st Lieut. James L. Wilson, Fort Trumbull, Conn. (S. O. 27, Feb. 9, D. East.)

1st Lieut. Clarence Deems will proceed from Fort Adams, R. I., to Fort Preble, Me., and report for temporary Court-martial duty (S. O. 28, Feb. 11, D. East.)

5TH ARTILLERY, Colonel John Hamilton.

The following troops of the 5th Art. will take part in the public reception to be given to the remains of Lieutenant-Commander G. W. De Long, U. S. N., and comrades, upon their arrival in New York City: Two foot batteries and the band from Fort Hamilton, one foot battery from Fort Columbus, and one foot battery from Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H. Major R. H. Jackson will command these troops upon the occasion in question (S. O. 31, Feb. 14, D. East.)

1ST INFANTRY, Colonel William R. Shafter.

2d Lieut. H. M. Roach is appointed A. A. Q. M. in the field (S. O. 10, Feb. 1, D. Ariz.)

2ND INFANTRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

2d Lieut. W. R. Abercrombie is detailed (temporarily) on special duty in the office of the Instructor of Musketry, Dept. of Columbia (S. O. 10, Jan. 24, D. Columbia.)

At the request of 2d Lieut. W. R. Abercrombie, a Board of Survey will convene at Vancouver Depot, Jan. 30, for the purpose of fixing the responsibility for the loss of one shot

gun, the property of Lieut. Abercrombie, abstracted from his effects while in transit from Fort Cour d'Alene, I. T., to Vancouver, W. T. (S. O. 11, Jan. 28, D. Columbia.)

In the case of Private Chas. Murray, Co. E, recently tried at Vancouver Barracks for desertion, the reviewing officer, General N. A. Miles, says:

The accused pleaded guilty to the specification and charge, but presented to the court a written statement of facts which, supported by proof, would have been very strong evidence that there was no intent to commit the crime of desertion, and had such evidence been considered by the court it would undoubtedly have influenced its findings. It appears from the record that the attention of the court was respectfully invited by its president to this matter, in connection with the requirements of G. O. 91, A. G. O., of 1881, and further, that their attention was especially invited to this order by the Judge-Advocate before a finding had been reached, still the court saw fit to wholly ignore the requirements of said order, and even to stop the reading of the same by the Judge-Advocate. The last paragraph of this order requires that a copy shall be furnished every General Court-martial before which enlisted men may be brought for trial, for the information and guidance of the court, and it was the duty of the court to have given this order due and respectful consideration. Furthermore, it appearing that some important part of the proceedings of the court had been entirely eliminated from the record, it was returned and the court directed to complete the same in accordance with the original notes of the Judge-Advocate. While a court has full control over the form of its record, it is not warranted in suppressing, eliminating, or withholding any part of its proceedings which has bearing on the case, as such complete record is necessary to enable the reviewing authority to arrive at a correct understanding of every question in issue. That portion of the proceedings above referred to is disapproved, otherwise the proceedings are approved. The findings and sentence are disapproved. Private Murray will be released from confinement and restored to duty with his company.

4TH INFANTRY, Colonel William P. Carlin.

Capt. James H. Spencer, having been found by an Army Retiring Board incapacitated for active service, the extension of leave of absence on account of sickness granted him in S. O. 159, July 12, 1883, H. Q. A., is still further extended until further orders (S. O., Feb. 13, H. Q. A.)

1st Lieut. John J. O'Brien is detailed as a member of the Board of Officers ordered to convene at Cheyenne, W. T., March 1, 1884, by S. O. 14, Div. M. (S. O. 16, Feb. 12, Div. M.)

7TH INFANTRY, Colonel John Gibbon.

In a regimental order of Jan. 28, General Gibbon expresses his satisfaction in announcing to the regiment the result of the target practice for the past year. He says:

The 7th Infantry this year wins the prize (U. P. R. R. Trophy) in the regimental team match, and is No. 1 in the regimental team skirmish match. It has three winners of prizes in the individual skirmish match (Prin. Mus. Dillery, Sergt. Chaplin, Co. I, and Priv. Zakariasen, Co. H), and two in the short range match (Sergt. Chaplin, Co. I, and Sergt. Mayo, Co. B). Sergt. Mayo, Co. B, wins the Department Commander's gold badge for best individual score in the regimental team skirmish match. The regiment has four members on the Department team (Priv. Zakariasen, Co. H, Sergt. Chaplin, Co. I, Corpl. Stevens, Co. G, and Prin. Mus. Dillery), and one on the Division team (Corpl. Stevens, Co. G). Finally, it has the highest regimental figure of merit, and Co. A the highest figure of merit of any company, and Chief Mus. Watters the highest individual score, in the Dept. of Platte. It is a matter of congratulation to observe that at the head of the marksmanship of every company in the regiment the names of one or more officers are found, testifying to the interest taken by the officers in the efficiency of their commands. The beneficial results of this interest are seen in the fact that every company in the regiment except one has improved in marksmanship since last year, some of the companies more than doubling their scores. These successes, it is hoped, will serve to stimulate the officers and enlisted men of the regiment to still farther efforts towards good marksmanship. As a further inducement to success, the commissioned officers of the regiment are subscribing a fund for the purpose of offering prizes for the coming year to the best marksmen.

9TH INFANTRY, Colonel John S. Mason.

Capt. G. B. Russell, 9th Inf., A. A. I. G., will proceed to St. Louis and inspect the accounts of Major W. M. Maynard, Pay Dept. (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, Dept. M.)

12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.

Leave of absence for ten days is granted Capt. H. G. Brown, Fort Niagara, N. Y. (S. O. 30, Feb. 13, D. East.)

14TH INFANTRY, Colonel Lewis C. Hunt.

Leave of absence for twenty days is granted 1st Lieut. Patrick Haeson, Cautionment on the Uncomphaghe, Colo. (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, Dept. M.)

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph N. G. Whistler.

2d Lieut. James A. Maney, en route to Fort Buford, will report to the C. O. Fort Snelling, Minn., to conduct recruits to Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., and will then proceed to his station (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. Dak.)

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. William O. Cory is extended three months (S. O., Feb. 11, H. Q. A.)

The C. O. Fort Randall, D. T., will send an officer to Fort Snelling, Minn., to conduct recruits for the 15th Inf. to Fort Randall (S. O. 14, Feb. 2, D. Dak.)

Leave of absence for six months on Surg. certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond sea, is granted 2d Lieut. Edward Lloyd (S. O., Feb. 13, H. Q. A.)

16TH INFANTRY, Colonel Matthew M. Blunt.

Leave of absence for ten days is granted 2d Lieut. R. R. Steedman, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 32, Feb. 11, Dept. M.)

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles C. Gilbert.

A handy roster of the non-commissioned officers of the 17th Infantry comes to us with the compliments of Sergt.-Major S. R. Myer. Ninety-two names are on the list, with three vacancies for corporals. Sergt.-Major Myer was appointed June 11, 1882; Q. M. Sergt. Jas. Lehane, Aug. 26, 1876; Chief Musician John Lapini, June 12, 1880, and Principal Musicians Whiteley and Eckhardt, Feb. 27, 1878, and Oct. 12, 1883, respectively. The senior 1st sergeant is Michael Nalov, of Co. E, Jan. 10, 1877, and the senior sergeant is William Byrnes, of Co. B, May 1, 1873. The senior corporal is Michael Howard, of Co. C, April 4, 1881. The roster reflects credit upon its compiler and the regimental press.

18TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.

Leave of absence for six months, with permission to go beyond sea, to take effect when his services can be spared, is granted 2d Lieut. Peter Campbell (S. O., Feb. 9, H. Q. A.)

Lieut.-Col. John J. Coppinger will proceed to and take station at Fort Assiniboine, M. T. (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. Dak.)

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

The travel, to and from San Antonio, by Capt. G. F.

Towle, is necessary for the public service (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. Tex.)

21ST INFANTRY, Colonel Henry A. Morrow.

1st Lieuts. Daniel Cornman and Charles A. Williams are detailed as additional members of the G. C.-M. at Vancouver Bks (S. O. 11, Jan. 28, D. Columbia.)

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.

Leave of absence for one month, to take effect March 20, 1884, with permission to apply for an extension of twenty days, is granted Capt. C. J. Dickey, Fort Marcy, N. M. (S. O. 32, Feb. 11, Div. M.)

Leave of absence for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted Capt. Mott Hooton, Fort Lewis, Colo. (S. O. 32, Feb. 11, Dept. M.)

23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Henry M. Black.

Before a G. C.-M. which met at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and of which Colonel H. M. Black, 23d Inf., was president, was arraigned and tried 1st Lieut. W. L. Clarke, 23d Inf. Charge 1. Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman—the specification reciting that, having sold his pay accounts for November, 1883, to the post trader at Fort Leavenworth, he afterwards sold an account for the same month to T. H. Norton and Co., of Wheeling, W. Va. Charge 2. Making and causing to be presented a false and fraudulent claim against the U. S.—the specification reciting that, after having sold one account to the post trader, he sold another which was false and fraudulent, and was presented to an Army paymaster for payment. Lieut. Clarke pleaded and was found guilty, and sentenced "To be dismissed the Service of the U. S." The proceedings, findings, and sentence having been approved by the proper reviewing authority and the record forwarded, in accordance with the 106th Article of War, for the action of the President, the following are his orders indorsed thereon:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, February 5, 1884.

"The sentence in the foregoing case of 1st Lieutenant William L. Clarke, 23d Infantry, is hereby confirmed."

"CHESTER A. ARTHUR."

By direction of the Secretary of War the sentence in the case of 1st Lieut. William L. Clarke, 23d Inf., will take effect Feb. 15, 1884, from which date he will cease to be an officer of the Army (G. C.-M. O. 8, Feb. 9, H. Q. A.)

24TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.

Capt. John O. Gilmore, having reported from leave of absence granted him while on duty at the Camp of Competitors, is relieved from duty in connection with that camp and will join his company at Fort Elliott, Tex. (S. O. 26, Feb. 2, Dept. M.)

Leave of absence for fifteen days, to take effect on or after March 5, is granted 1st Lieut. H. E. Leggett, Fort Sill, I. T. (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, Dept. M.)

Appointments, Promotions, Retirements, Transfers, Casualties, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army recorded in the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, February 9, 1884.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Assistant Surgeons with the rank of 1st Lieutenant.
William D. Dietz, of New York, December 3, 1883.
Walter W. R. Fisher, of Virginia, December 3, 1883.
William Stephenson, of Maine, December 3, 1883.
Adrian S. Polhemus, of New York, December 3, 1883.
John L. Phillips, of the District of Columbia, December 3, 1883.
Benben L. Robertson, of Virginia, December 3, 1883.
William C. Borden, of the District of Columbia, December 3, 1883.
Edgar A. Mearns, of New York, December 3, 1883.
Gay L. Edie, of Virginia, December 3, 1883.
William D. Crosby, of New York, December 3, 1883.
William L. Kneidler, of Pennsylvania, December 3, 1883.
Charles M. Gandy, of New Jersey, December 3, 1883.
Charles S. Black, of New York, December 3, 1883.
James E. Pilcher, of New York, December 3, 1883.
Alonso R. Chapin, of Illinois, December 3, 1883.

19th Regiment of Infantry.

Zebulon B. Vance, Jr., of North Carolina, to be 2d Lieutenant, January 7, 1884, vice Eckerson, promoted.

RETIREMENT.

General William T. Sherman, February 8, 1884.

REVOKED.

The promotion of 1st Lieutenant Robert G. Armstrong, to be Captain, 1st Infantry, to rank from September 20, 1883, vice Humbert, deceased.

CASUALTIES.

1st Lieutenant William B. Brewster, Assistant Surgeon, resigned February 7, 1884.
Captain George E. Pond, Assistant Quartermaster, resigned his commission as 1st Lieutenant, 8th Cavalry, only, January 16, 1884.
1st Lieutenant Douglas A. Howard, Ordnance Department, resigned his commission as 2d Lieutenant, 3d Artillery, only, January 16, 1884.

COURTS-MARTIAL.

The following courts have been ordered:

At Fort McDowell, A. T., Feb. 5. Detail: Major James Biddle and Capt. T. C. Tupper, 6th Cav.; Capt. D. P. Colman and 1st Lieut. J. J. O'Connell, 1st Inf.; 2d Lieut. G. H. Sands, 6th Cav., and 1st Lieut. E. E. Dravo, 6th Cav., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 9, Jan. 30, D. Ariz.)

At Fort Leavenworth, Kas., Feb. 9. Detail: Col. Edward Hatch, 9th Cav.; Lieut.-Col. D. L. Macruder and Major Joseph P. Wright, Med. Dept.; Major William R. Gibson, Pay Dept.; Major James Gillies, Q. M. Dept.; Capt. Abram A. Harbach, 20th Inf.; Capt. Francis Moore, 9th Cav.; Capt. John E. Greer, Ord. Dept.; 2d Lieut. Robert N. Getty, 22d Inf., and 1st Lieut. William C. Manning, 23d Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, Dept. M.)

At Fort Riley, Kas., Feb. 11. Detail: Major F. W. Bennett, Capt. L. H. Kucker and J. S. Loud, 1st Lieut. Gustavus Valois, 2d Lieut. John F. McBlain, J. H. Gardner, and A. B. Jackson, 9th Cav., and 1st Lieut. J. F. Guilfoyle, 9th Cav., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 29, Feb. 6, Dept. M.)

At Fort Stanton, N. M., Feb. 13. Detail: Capt. H. W. Lawton and A. E. Wood, 4th Cav.; 1st Lieut. H. G. Cavenaugh and E. L. Fletcher, and 2d Lieut. W. S. Davies, 13th Inf.; 2d Lieut. G. H. Gale and R. D. Walsh, 4th Cav., and Capt. H. C. Pratt, 13th Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 27, Feb. 4, Dept. M.)

At Fort Totten, D. T., Feb. 14. Detail: Capt. Henry J. Nowlan, 7th Cav.; Capt. Cass Durham, 18th Inf.; Capt.

William B. Davis, Med. Dept.; 1st Lieut. Owen J. Sweet, 25th Inf.; 2d Lieut. John C. Waterman, 7th Cav.; 2d Lieut. Edgar S. Walker, 17th Inf., and 1st Lieut. Albert J. Russell, 7th Cav., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 14, Feb. 2, D. Dak.)

At Madison Bks. N. Y., Feb. 19. Detail: Col. O. B. Willcox, 12th Inf.; Surg. W. E. Waters, Med. Dept.; Capt. H. C. Ebert and John L. Viven, 1st Lieut. G. S. Wilson, Frederick Von Schrader, and R. E. Evans, 12th Inf., and 2d Lieut. M. F. Walz, 12th Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 30, Feb. 13, D. E.)

At Fort Concho, Tex., Feb. 13. Detail: Lieut.-Col. A. L. Hough, Capt. Clayton Hale and E. S. Ewing, and 1st Lieut. L. C. Allen, Adjt., 16th Inf.; 1st Lieut. G. H. Evans and 2d Lieut. J. W. Watson, 10th Cav.; 2d Lieut. W. K. Wright, 16th Inf., and 2d Lieut. W. H. Johnston, 16th Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 16, Feb. 8, D. Tex.)

MILITARY PRISONERS.

The record of the G. C.-M. instituted at Fort Walla Walla, W. T., per Post Orders 10, in the case of Private James Kelly, Troop L, 1st Cav., having been received at Hdqrs. Dept. of Columbia for supervision of the Department Commander, the proceedings are set aside. The record failing to show that the court arrived at a finding to the charges and their specifications, the sentence becomes invalid in law (G. C.-M. O. 7, Jan. 24, D. Columbia.)

Boards.—The Surgeon-General of the Army has intimated that "the customs of taking boards at post hospitals is not approved."

Re-Enlistments.—Upon an inquiry of Col. H. M. Black, 23d Infantry, as to what class of men should be considered as soldiers re-enlisted in regiments within the meaning of A. R. 772, the Adjutant General of the Army says: "Men re-enlisted in the same regiment only, can be considered 'regimental' enlistments; all other classes of enlistments or re-enlistments must be considered as belonging to Departmental Recruiting Service."—(Indorsement A. G. O., Jan. 30, 1884.)

Reception of General Ord's Remains.—The remains of the late Major Gen. E. O. Ord, U. S. Army, are expected to arrive by steamer in New York City from Cuba about Feb. 25. The division commander (Gen. Hancock) and such of his staff as can be conveniently spared from other duties will be prepared to accompany the remains from New York to Jersey City. The commanding officer Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., will detail a guard of honor, to consist of six sergeants of artillery, under command of a first lieutenant, which will be held in readiness to receive the remains, and, upon their arrival, escort them from New York City to Washington (S. O. 2, Div. Atlantic, Feb. 13).

On arrival of the remains at Washington, Gen. R. B. Ayres, U. S. A., and the troops under his command will be in readiness to receive and escort them to their final resting place—Oak Hill Cemetery.

Honorable Discharge.—Upon the question as to whether or not the term "honorably discharged" is construed to apply to cases of officers who have been cashiered or dishonorably discharged from or dismissed the Service, but whose disabilities have been removed by order of the President of the U. S., either during the continuance of or since the close of the Rebellion, General Drum says: "During the war it was a ruling of the Department that officers dismissed the Service, either by sentence of General Court-martial or summarily, were, by reason of such dismissal, unworthy to re-enter the Service. The removal of the disability thus attached to dismissals (only done by direction of the President), was simply an assurance and declaration that if the dismissed officer was recommended by the governor of his State he would be permitted to re-enter the Service of the United States. The form adopted by this office in such cases was to inform the governor of the State, by letter, that, by direction of the President, the disability resulting from dismissal was removed and the officer could be recommended should the governor so desire. The effect of such action was not to restore the officer to his former position, but to remove the stain of dismissal by declaring him qualified to re-enter the Service. It was a measure of reparation equivalent, in this respect only, to an honorable discharge. A removal of the disability, either during the continuance of, or since the close of the Rebellion, did not operate to expunge the record of dismissal, and, therefore, the term 'honorably discharged' cannot be construed to apply to such cases" (Letter A. G. O., Dec. 1, 1883).

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Department of the Missouri.—A roster of troops, the first since October last, has just appeared. To its customary detailed information we note an useful addition—the relative rank of field officers and captains in the Department, with the station of each.

The Provost Guard Social Club, of the Leavenworth Prison, gave a calico hop on Thursday evening of this week.

Department of the East.—A new post-office at the railroad station at Gaithersburg, Md., has been established for the accommodation, principally, of the U. S. troops from Washington Barracks and Fort McHenry, expected to go into camp again there this summer.

A Washington despatch says, with reference to the bill recently introduced for the sale of the Fort Brady reservation, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., that there is but little opposition to the measure, and it has the approval of the Secretary of War.

Our Fort Trumbull correspondent writes: "The officers of the garrison gave a ball on Thursday, Feb. 7, in the School building, which was largely attended, many of New London's most distinguished citizens being present. The affair was a complete success, as the officers of the gallant 4th at Trumbull are very popular. A ball by the enlisted men on the programme for this week. It is wet here, very wet, but we hope to be dried out soon and resume our normal condition. Col. Pennington is off on a flying leave, but news is scarce and matters dull."

The interior of Fort Sumter, S. C., is being greatly improved by the Engineer Department, and at present the magazines, etc., are being covered with white sand, preparatory to being turfed. There are but few traces now of the bombardment.

Department of California.—A rifle tournament, under the auspices of the Presidio Rifle Club, was held on the range at the Presidio Feb. 2. The principal prize was the silver cup trophy, presented by the Presidio and Ferries Railroad Company, to become the property of that organization whose team shall first win it twice. The fourth competition was shot Feb. 2 under fairly favorable conditions. In 1883, Troop

M, 1st Cavalry, won it twice, and then Police Team No. One won it once. This time Police Team No. Two won it. So that the trophy still remains open to competition. Battery C, 1st U. S. Artillery, also took part in the tournament.

No. 8 of vol. 1 of *The Old Guard*, published at Angel Island, is acknowledged with thanks. The Fort Bidwell news is that the Dramatic Association at that post is flourishing; Lieut. Lynch has returned; Lieut. Hubert has been appointed post adjutant; a large supply of ice has been obtained, and the New Year was joyously celebrated. Benicia Barracks has had a wrestling match, which ended in a draw. Fort Halleck devotes much time to sleighing, and has a rumor that the garrison may go to Angel Island.

Finally, Angel Island furnishes its quota. The Social Club gave its second regular ball Jan. 18; Lieut. H. Johnson superintends the School of Instruction for N. C. O.'s in Tactics; Mr. Crossman, who has been the guest of Gen. Kautz, has come to the Pacific Coast to introduce an improved telephone; drills are frequent, and improvements are visible.

Department of Dakota.—Advices from Fort Snelling state that General Terry has received authority to abandon Fort Hale as a military post May 1. It is at present garrisoned by two companies of the 25th Infantry, Major Frederick Meers commanding.

Department of Texas.—General Grierson, commanding at Fort Davis, has issued an order forbidding enlisted men of the command to live off the military reservation, or to bring women with whom they are not married on it. Company commanders are charged with the execution of the order in their respective companies, and officers of the day are to see that it is strictly carried into effect.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

NEWPORT BARRACKS, KY.

The flood experiences of February, 1883, are again repeated along the Valley of the Ohio, with the exception that the lesson then learned has been taken advantage of by all having interests at stake, and at the first indication of high water, property liable to destruction was moved to places of safety.

During the tour here of Battery G, 2d Artillery, its officers and men have been subjected to three floods, in three successive years, and the terrible ordeal through which they have passed, cannot be realized except by those who have passed through like trials.

The floods of 1882 and 1883 brought a large amount of anxiety to all here, attendant with destruction of both public and private property, but the recollection of the present flood will always bring sorrow to our hearts, shrouded as it is with the sad death by drowning of our little comrade, Musician William Buckert, and will cause every one in the Battery to recall the many good qualities and condone the shortcomings of the departed.

The circumstances attending the death of our little bugler are as follows: At about one o'clock this morning Buckert returned to the Barrack from Newport with a fellow soldier in a skiff. After his companion had reached the porch of the Battery quarters, Buckert pushed the boat a short distance from the building and playfully rocked it from side to side; a sudden lurch threw him into water eight feet deep, (where only a few days ago the Battery had paraded dry land at its several roll calls.) Alarm was immediately given, to which all responded promptly, but Buckert being unable to swim sank at once, and did not come to the surface, until drawn up by a boat hook, after a prolonged search of nearly two hours. Buckert was of a happy, cheerful disposition, the life of the Battery, the embodiment of fun, a favorite with officers and men and known to almost every one in Newport. He was a good bugler, and the notes of his bugle were clear, musical and pleasing to the ear. He sounded his last bugle call, at Retreat last evening from the porch of the Battery quarters, and the many boats filled with pleasure parties rowing through the post rested on their oars to listen to the clear notes echoed back from the opposite bank, to quietly die away over the wild waste of water. Little did he or any of us dream that he was performing his last official duty.

Musician Buckert was born in Baltimore, Md., was but twenty years of age, had been in the Army four years and three months, and had he lived he would have been the next to be discharged by reason of expiration of service. Only a few days ago he was making plans for his next enlistment. His funeral, the saddest in the history of Battery G, 2d Artillery, took place Feb. 9th, from the Presbyterian Church, Rev. Mr. Stewart officiating.

The funeral procession from the barracks, by boats to a landing place three squares distant was a mournful one: the casket was placed in a hearse in waiting, and followed by carriages containing a few friends, while the Battery marched on the sidewalk to the church. The casket was draped with the American flag, on which were many beautiful floral offerings, the most noticeable of which were a wreath from Mrs. Woodruff, a bugle from Mrs. Bell, a basket of cut flowers from Mrs. Dudley, and a bouquet from Mrs. James Thompson. Mrs. Thompson has always felt a great interest in Battery G, 2d Artillery, in as much as her husband, Col. Thompson, was formerly Captain of Battery G, and her son, Lieut. John T. Thompson, now at Willet's Point, is its 2d Lieut.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

COLUMBUS BARRACKS, OHIO.

A DETACHMENT of fifty-eight recruits left here Feb. 6, for San Antonio, Texas, for assignment as follows: Fifty for the Nineteenth and eight for the Sixteenth Infantry, Lieut. J. H. Payne in command. Fifty recruits for the Thirteenth Infantry, Fort Wingate, N. M., and seven special assigned recruits, for regiments serving in the Department of the Missouri, left to-day, Capt. Mason Carter, 5th Infantry, in command.

A detachment of fifty recruits for the Twentieth Infantry will leave on the 14th inst.

Band Musician Chas. B. Paul, died of pneumonia in the Post Hospital on the 9th inst. The following extract was issued by Col. E. F. Townsend, commanding: "It is with the deepest regret that the Commanding Officer officially announces to the garrison the death of Band Musician Charles B. Paul, a member of the Depot Band, which took place at 3.45 A. M., this date. Musician Paul became a member of the band in 1867, and has been in the Service almost continuously since that time. During the late war he was an officer of volunteers and rendered valuable services during that trying period. During his entire service he was respected by both officers and men, as well as by the citizens of the community in which he lived."

He was buried on Sunday with military honors, a large concourse of people from the city being present. Rev. A. Swartz, of the Emanuel Evangelical Church, read the burial service. 1840 recruits were received during the year 1883.

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

North Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Cooper.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Allen V. Reed. Reported at Santiago de Cuba, Jan. 17, and from that port was to go to St. Thomas.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Oliver A. Batcheller. At New York. Will sail Feb. 16 for Port au Prince, Hayti. On her way South will touch at Port Royal for the purpose of filling up with coal.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Philip H. Cooper. Reported at Jamaica, Feb. 8, en route to Port au Prince.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 23 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Joseph N. Miller. Arrived at New Orleans Feb. 8, having left Aspinwall Jan. 27. Passage made mostly under sail, with good weather and moderately easterly winds. The report of Lieut. B. P. Rodgers, of his visit, under orders, to the various important points on the line of the Panama Canal, will be forwarded when prepared. Will leave New Orleans March 1, for Vera Cruz, Mexico, where she will remain about two weeks, and will touch at Havana on her return North, remaining there about ten days, providing the health of the port will permit.

In the New Orleans *Picayune*, of Feb. 9, we find the following account of a visit to the *Tennessee*:

The reporter was presented to Lieut. B. Tilley, Secretary on the Admiral's staff, and from him the following items of information were obtained:

The various vessels of the fleet having been despatched on the several cruises allotted to them, the *Tennessee* sailed in the beginning of December from Hampton Roads, Va., for the West Indies, stopping at St. Thomas, Port au Prince and other places in the Archipelago. The vessel was at Port au Prince, Hayti, when the revolution there was about being brought to a close. Subsequently the ship sailed to Colon, in the Isthmus of Darien, and during the stay there the officers were enabled to pass along the Suez Canal now under construction. They were struck with the magnitude of the operations in progress, and the energy and activity with which they are prosecuted. The evidences of determined and efficient work seemed to assure the observers that the projectors of the canal are thoroughly in earnest, and fully intend to carry the work to an early completion.

The *Tennessee* left Colon on the 27th of January and sailed directly for this port. No specially bad weather has been encountered, and the entire voyage, after leaving Hampton Roads, was prosperous and without any disagreeable incident. Capt. J. M. Miller, the commander of the ship, who takes the place of Capt. Bradford, who commanded her for several years past when she visited this port, expressed much pleasure at the prospect of an opportunity to become acquainted with New Orleans and its people. He has not been here since 1858, when some United States vessels were stationed in these waters to look after filibustering and other affairs of international interest. Capt. Miller said that the Admiral had desired to assemble most or all of the vessels of the fleet at this port about this time, but the extent of the voyage they were required to make would prevent this. He said that in the absence of orders to the contrary it was expected that the flagship will remain here during the Mardi Gras at least. There are many changes in the personnel of the officers of the ship since her visit last year, and the people of New Orleans will miss some of their old time naval friends, but will have the opportunity of making new ones. Many of the officers are known here, but some are strangers. They are gallant and accomplished men, and without doubt they will have every opportunity to enjoy the hospitality and to take the social pleasures for which New Orleans is so truly and traditionally distinguished. The late Admiral Wyman, who a few years ago used to visit this port, was a high dignitary in the realm of the Mighty Box, and the *Tennessee* is the flagship of the Royal Navy, and is in a matter of congratulation to the people of this city that this ship and its gallant officers have come to do honor to their great festivity.

VANDALIA, 2d rate, 8 guns, Capt. Rush R. Wallace. Arrived at La Guayra Jan. 28, after a pleasant passage from Port of Spain, Trinidad. Her reception by the governor of the latter place was pleasant, but no official courtesies were exchanged beyond the mere sending of an officer on board and asking the officers of the ship to a dance decided on before her arrival. The consul at La Guayra visited the ship on the 28th. Capt. Wallace paid an official visit to the Acting President, the President being absent, and the Minister of the United States at Caracas. No trouble contemplated, from what could be learned, at the approaching election, which takes place Feb. 22.

South Atlantic Station—Commodore Thomas S. Phelps.

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Capt. Aaron W. Weaver. (f. s. n. a. s.) At Zanzibar Dec. 23.

NIPICO, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Henry B. Seely. At Buenos Ayres, Nov. 1, 1883.

European Station—Rear-Admiral Chas. H. Baldwin.

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns (f. s. e. s.), Capt. Edward E. Potter. Reported by cable at Naples Feb. 12.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Nicoll Ludlow. At Leghorn, Italy, Jan. 16. Still under repair. Expected to be ready for sea early in February, when she will join the flagship at Naples, and to be in Palermo about Feb. 20.

KEARSARGE, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Wm. R. Bridgman. Cruising along the Italian Coast. Was to sail from Genoa Jan. 15 for Civita Vecchia, and after a few days stay go to Leghorn, and is to be at Palermo about Feb. 20.

Pacific Station—Rear-Admiral Aaron K. Hughes.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Joseph B. Coghlan. At Sitka, Alaska.

HARTFORD, 2d rate, 16 guns (f. s. p. s.), Capt. Chas. C. Carpenter. Left Valparaiso (Jan. 9) for Honolulu.

IBOQUOIS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. James H. Sands. At Callao, Peru, Dec. 15, and sailed Dec. 16 for Talcahuano.

LAKEWATNA, 2d rate, 9 guns, Capt. Augustus P. Cooke. Arrived at Valparaiso Dec. 14 from Talcahuano.

ONWARD, 4th rate, 8 guns, Lieut.-Commander Francis W. Dickens. Store ship. Callao, Peru. Will be relieved by the *Monongahela*.

PENSACOLA, 2d rate, 23 guns, Capt. Henry Erben. En route for the U. S. At Batavia, Java, at last accounts. Expects to arrive at Cape Town, Africa, about March 1, 1884, and to reach Hampton Roads, Va., during the middle of May. Letters should be sent to U. S. S. *Pensacola*, (care U. S. Consul): Cape Town, South Africa, via Europe.

WACHUSETT, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Alfred T. Mahan. At Callao, Peru, Dec. 21, 1883.

SHERANDOAH, 2d rate, 9 guns, Captain Chas. S. Norton. Arrived at Porto Grande, Island of St. Vincent, Jan. 20.

Asiatic Station—Acting Rear-Admiral John L. Davis.

ALEXZ, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. J. Barclay.

En route for Japan. Arrived at Honolulu, Dec. 20, 1883. Expected to sail Jan. 3, 1884. On her arrival at Nagasaki from Honolulu is to proceed to Shanghai.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Albert S. Barker. Arrived at Nagasaki, Dec. 14, 1883. Left Dec. 20, and arrived at Boze Island, Corea, Dec. 23.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Alex. H. McCormick. Arrived at Canton, China, Dec. 19. Will remain for present.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Purnell F. Harrington. Arrived at Shanghai, China, Jan. 2, from Hong Kong, via Swatow and Amoy.

MONOCACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Francis J. Higginson. Reported at Shanghai, China, Jan. 4, 1884. Will visit the trading ports on the coast to the South, and is to be placed at the disposal of U. S. Minister Young.

OSSISPE, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John F. McGlenney. At League Island, Pa. Was put in commission Jan. 28, 1884.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut.-Commander Geo. D. B. Glidden. At Tientsin, China.

RICHMOND, 2d rate, 14 guns (f. s. a.) Capt. Jos. S. Skerrett. At Shanghai, Jan. 4, 1884.

TRENTON, 2d rate, 10 guns, Capt. Robert L. Phythian. At Naples, Feb. 12, as reported by cable.

Apprentice Training Squadron—Commodore Stephen B. Lucie.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Commander Chas. V. Gridley. At New York.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Gundry ship. In winter quarters. Foot of West Twenty-seventh Street, New York.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Captain Edmund O. Matthews. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. Wm. C. Wise. At Norfolk, Va., for repairs. Expects to leave shortly on a cruise to the West Indies.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 12 guns, Comdr. Wm. H. Whiting. Training ship. At New York. Was to leave this week for a cruise to Lisbon and the coast of Africa, expecting to be absent about four months. While lying at the Ordnance Dock ready for sea, was run into on the morning of Feb. 13 by a ferry boat, and her stem so seriously damaged as to require docking.

On Special Service.

ALARM, 4th rate, Torpedo ram, 1 gun, Lieut. Robert M. G. Brown, commanding. At Washington, D. C.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Commander S. Dana Greene. At Washington, D. C.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John J. Read. At Erie, Penn.

PINTA, 4th rate, screw, 2 guns, Lieut. Comdr. Albert G. Caldwell. En route for San Francisco, Cal. Sailed Jan. 28 from Rio de Janeiro for Montevideo. Address, care of Navy Pay Agent, San Francisco, Cal.

POWHATAN, 2d rate, 14 guns, . . .

At Boston. Has been ordered to Port Royal, S. C., for the purpose of taking on board all the coal, provisions and stores now on board the *Powhatan*, and carrying them to the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. E. Clark. Surveying Central American Coast, bound to La Union at last accounts.

St. Mary's, sails, 8 guns, Commander Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. School ship. At New York, in her winter quarters, at the Dock foot of 23d Street, East River.

TALLAPOOSA, Despatch vessel, 4th rate, 2 guns, Lieut. John F. Merry, commanding temporarily. At Norfolk, Va., at last advice.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Commander Frank Wildes. At the Navy-yard, New York. Will make a cruise through the West Indies.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

At a meeting of the Trades Assembly, of New Orleans, an organization composed of delegates from each of the industrial bodies of the city, black and white, held Feb. 8, a resolution condemnatory of the action of Secretary Chandler in awarding the contract for steel plates for an American man-of-war to a British firm was adopted. The action of the Secretary of the Navy was pronounced as inimical to home labor and adverse to principles upon which the Government was established—protection to labor.

"NAVY" writes to the Boston *Advertiser*, in defence of the present pay system of the Navy: "Facts do not justify your assumption as to the easy manner in which the duties of pay officers can be performed by men who would be willing to enter the Navy as clerks on inferior pay, and to occupy a position beneath that to which their duties, their responsibilities and their obligations would entitle them. And even if this were practicable they would require other clerks to assist them. No economy would result from a system of clerks. No man of character who could give heavy bonds for the proper performance of his duties, would submit to the humiliation of such a position in the American Navy at a less sum than the salaries now allowed pay officers."

The Amateur Theatrical Company of the U. S. S. *Portsmouth* charitably gave an entertainment at Oxford Hall, Norfolk, Va., on the evening of February 9, for the benefit of the poor of that city. The affair was quite successful.

The New York *Herald*, of Feb. 7, published an interesting report of the homeward journey through Siberia, Russia and Germany of Lieutenants Harber and Schuetze, U. S. N., who sailed from Hamburg on Wednesday, escorting the remains of Commander De Long and the heroes who perished with him in the Polar regions. The *Herald* says: "In this funeral procession which has made more than half the circuit of the earth such tributes of respect and sympathy were received at every stage of the journey as show in what regard the men and women of the Old World hold the heroic martyrs of science, though, perhaps, we may in some degree attribute the demonstrations in Russian towns to that good will toward our country of which we have had other evidence in former days, though none more touching than this. But respect for the heroic dead is the touch of nature that makes the whole world kin."

The Secretary of the Navy transmitted to the Senate on Wednesday the report of the board appointed by him to ascertain the amount which ought to be paid to the constructors, severally, for the use and occupation of their yards with the double turreted iron clads and for the care thereof. For the *Anphitrite* they propose to pay Harlan and Hollingsworth, \$97,937, instead of \$108,500 charged by them; Mr. Bosch for the *Portan* \$69,210 instead of \$108,290, and William Cramp and Sons for the *Terror* \$75,790 instead of \$163,383. The Secretary of the Navy approved the figures named by the board. No estimates were made for the care of the *Monadnock*. Mr. Burgess' claim for the care of that vessel is \$309,004.82.

Commonwealth English has been designated by the Secretary of the Navy to revise the naval laws concerning the seamen of the Navy, particularly with reference to the inequality of punishments inflicted for offences; the equalization of prize money; the expediency of establishing of savings banks for seamen, and of placing seamen on the retired list, and generally to report upon subjects pertaining to the improvement of the condition of enlisted men of the Navy.

The steamship *Bear*, purchased for the Greeley relief expedition, arrived in New York on Thursday, from St. John, Newfoundland, and is anchored off the battery. The *Bear* is a screw steamship, and was built at Dundee, Scotland, in 1874. She measures 468 tons net and 689 tons gross. Her dimensions are: length, 190 feet; breadth of beam, 30 feet, and depth of hold, 18 feet. Her hull is divided into five water-tight compartments. The engines are of 110-horse power.

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED.

Feb. 9.—Commander John W. Phillip, as Inspector of the 12th Light House District on April 1 next.

Feb. 11.—Gunner Geo. L. Albro, to the training ship *Minnetosota*.

DETACHED.

Feb. 9.—Commander Geo. W. Coffin, from duty as Inspector of the 12th Light House District on April 1 and ordered to settle accounts, then wait orders.

Naval Cadet E. A. Anderson has reported his return home, having been detached from the Alliance on Jan. 12 last, and has been placed on sick leave.

Assistant Engineer Leo D. Miner, from duty at Phoenixville, Pa., and ordered to special duty at Pittsburgh, Pa., as Assistant Inspector of Material.

Feb. 14.—Lieutenant-Commander Henry E. Nichols, from the command of the Coast Survey steamer *Hassler* on the reporting of his relief and placed on waiting orders.

LEAVE GRANTED.

To Lieutenant J. D. J. Kelley, for one month from Feb. 19.

PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

Rear-Admiral Thomas Pattison, from Feb. 8, 1884.

LEAVE EXTENDED.

Of Passed Assistant Surgeon S. A. Griffith extended three months with permission to remain abroad.

CHANGES ON THE ASIATIC STATION.

Ensign Stokely Morgan was transferred from the *Juniata* to the *Monocacy* on Jan. 3, 1884.

CASUALTIES.

Deaths in the Navy of the United States, reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending Feb. 13, 1884: Moses Gaul, Marine, Feb. 4, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

MARINE CORPS.

First Lieutenant Jesup Nicholson was detached Feb. 8 from the Marine Barracks at Norfolk, Va., and ordered to duty at the Marine Barracks, Washington.

The sick leave of First Lieutenant David Whipple extended two months from Feb. 12.

First Lieutenant J. M. T. Young has been granted leave for 30 days from Feb. 20.

The orders of Feb. 8 detaching First Lieutenant Jesup Nicholson from the Marine Barracks, Norfolk, Va., and ordering him to duty at Washington are revoked.

First Lieutenant S. W. Quackenbush is detached from the Marine Barracks at Norfolk, Va., and ordered to duty at the Marine Barracks, Navy-yard, Washington.

REVENUE MARINE SERVICE.

FOLLOWING is a condensed report of the winter's cruising of the U. S. revenue steamers *Dallas*, *Dezler*, *Gallatin*, *Grant*, and *Woodbury*:

Revenue steamer *Dallas*, Portland, Me., Jan. 6.—Found the Am. schooner *George Washington* inside Portland Light fast in the ice with main boom carried away; towed her into the harbor. 7th, Found the Am. schooner *Buena Vista* close to Ellingwood Rock at anchor, with her stern just clear, in great danger of going ashore in case the wind increased; towed her clear, so that she could proceed. Found the Am. schooner *E. H. Cornell* off Seguin L. H., with sails split and frozen and vessel low up so as to be unmanageable; towed her to a safe anchorage. 8th, Found the Am. schooner *Black Warrior* at anchor off Hart Island in heavy field ice, becalmed and helpless; towed her to Green's Landing. Found the Br. schooner *Elita* fast in the ice in Fox Island Thoroughfare and helpless; towed her into clear water, so that she could proceed. Same service to Am. schooners *Glennullen*, *Key-eltone*, and *Oliver Branch*. Found Am. schooner *Morning Light* off Hat Island becalmed in heavy field ice, lying helpless with all sails set and frozen; towed her to Green's Landing. 9th, The Br. schooner *Elita* was an anchor with the rocks on the point of Allen's Island close under her stern, with no room to veer our cable, and in great danger. When she bung out signal of distress the *Dallas* was an anchor off Green's Landing in a heavy gale, both anchors down and a steamer close ahead, laying over them, making it impossible for her to heave them up and go to the assistance of the schooner. 1st Lieut. T. S. Smyth volunteered to go with a boat's crew to her assistance. Passing with great difficulty through large quantities of field ice, he rescued her, got her under way and brought her to a safe anchorage alongside the *Dallas*. 18th, Found Br. schooner *Maggie* S. helpless in the ice in Fox Island Thoroughfare; towed her clear. Same assistance to Am. schooner *Morning Light*. Rescued the captain and one man, crew of the Am. schooner *Traverser*, which had gone ashore the night before at 9 and was a total loss; to the men off Two Brothers Island, where they had been since the wreck without food or shelter, and landed them at Port Clyde. 20th, Found the Br. schooner *Gen eral* fast in the ice in Deer Island Thoroughfare and close upon the rocks; towed her clear. Same assistance to Am. schooners *E. L. Huggs*, *S. E. and G. W. Hinds*, *Pumbustash*, and *G. M. Porter*, and Br. schooners *Mabel Purdy* and *Royal Arcanum*. 23d, Same assistance in Eggemoggin Reach to Am. steamer *Leviathan*; broke a channel for her through the reach, so that she could make her regular trip, which she could not have done but for this assistance, the ice being too heavy. 29th, Am. steamer *Leviathan* in thick ice at wharf in Rockland Harbor; broke out a channel to clear water. Same assistance to Am. steamer *Cambridge* and schooner *Fannie Whitmore*. Broke a channel for the Am. steamer *Pioneer* off Rockland Harbor, so that she could make port. Found the Am. schooner *Lucy and Mary* fast in heavy ice three miles north of Indian Island L. H. and leaking badly; broke her out and towed her to Rockland Harbor.

Dezler, Capt. Eric Gabrielson, Newport, R. I., December 29, 1883.—Pulled on the Am. brig *Ella Maria*, ashore on Fisher's Island, and apparently bilged; 27th, hauled ashore the Am. brig *O. B. Stillman*, at anchor in Tarpanin Cove, in a dangerous position, sails gone, and crew badly frore-bitten, towed her to a safe anchorage in Vineyard Haven, 1884, January 18, extended succor

to the Am. steamer *City of Columbus*, a report of which has already been given.

Gallatin, Capt. J. C. Mitchell, Boston, Mass., 1883, December 12, found the Am. schooner *Amazon* ashore on outside of beach near Race Point, L. H., the sea breaking over her; hauled her aloft, sent a boat's crew to bail her out and assist at pumps; towed her to Provincetown, and put her on the flats to prevent her sinking. 23d, found the Am. schooner *Alta V. Cole* in Long. 79 deg. 8 m. 30 s., Lat. 41 deg. 23 m. 30 s., with sails blown away, vessel badly ice, riding heavily and leaking badly, in danger of foundering; towed her 20 miles to safe anchorage, Vineyard Haven. 28th, found Am. sch. *E. G. Willard* off Tasholter's Island, leaking badly, laboring heavily, sea washing over her, loss of both anchors and flying jib, bulwarks and boat stove; she would have been on the rocks in fifteen minutes, and a total loss; run hawser to her, and towed to Gloucester; the service was rendered in a heavy gale, with considerable risk both to cutter and boat's crew, it being necessary to anchor the vessel very near the rocks, with the wind blowing on shore. 1884, January 6, found the Am. schooner *Tahmah* off Pollock Rip, with foremast blown away, wheel smashed, and leaking badly; towed her to Vineyard Haven. 9th, found the Am. schooner *Hattie Turner* off Ten Pound Island in a dangerous position, with loss of starboard anchor and thirty fathoms of chain and starboard hawse pipe; towed her to Gloucester; 24th and 25th, found Br. schooner *Ariel* ashore on Beverly Bay, Mass., with rudder unhung; run hawser, hauled on her during two tides, finally released her, and towed her to Boston.

Grant, Capt. Joseph Irish, New York, N. Y.—1883, Dec. 26, discovered fire at 12:15 A. M. in engine room and deck houses of the Am. sloop barge *Flora*; called all hands, and went with buckets, axes, etc., to the fire, and after one hour's hard fighting, got it under control, saving the barge and a fleet of vessels laid up for the winter; at 5 fire broke out again; went again and put out.

Woodbury, Capt. C. A. Abbey, Eastport, Me.—1883, December 7 picked up the crew of the Br. schooner *Wide Awake*, stranded on Two Beach Ledges; landed them at Rockland. 18th, found Am. schooner *Prescott Hazeltine* anchored off Owl Head, and leaking so badly that she could not be worked; towed her to Belfast, Me. 1884, January 5, found Am. schooner *David W. Hunt* at anchor in a dangerous location off Ham Island L. H., and under a little more stress she might have gone ashore, being helpless in a bad current and seaway; towed her to Boothbay. 16th, found Br. schooner *Astoria*, ice-bound in Jaricho Bay; towed her clear of ice and to a safe harbor; same assistance to Br. schooner *Cristine*; towed into open water the Am. schooner *Lizzie Carr*, at anchor in the ice in Fox Island Thoroughfare. 17th, Br. sch. *Lula Price*, fast in the ice in York's Narrows, and drifting on the rocks; towed her to clear water. 18th, Am. schooner *Flora Grindle* was at anchor in Castine Harbor, ice and wind bound; towed her to Belfast. 19th, found Am. schooner *Electric Light* at anchor off Pond Island Bar, rolling heavily; towed her to Bath, Me.; she was close to the bottom in a very bad seaway, a N. E. gale and snowstorm, and could get no tug. 23d, found Am. schooner *A. B. Littlejohn* at anchor in drift ice off Fox Island Thoroughfare; towed her to Long Island Harbor; found Am. schooner *Flora Grindle* off Bass Harbor Head, under way with light wind in drift ice; towed her to Bear Island; found Am. schooner *Belle O'Neil* anchored close in on a lee shore, Rockport Harbor, where she had been forced by the ice; towed to a safe anchorage. 26th, found Am. sloop *Leviathan* environed by ice in Eggemoggin Reach, and unable to force a passage; broke a track, and conveyed her through the reach. 27th, found the Am. sch. *T. H. Livingston* frozen in off Spruce Head, W. Penobscot Bay, and helpless; steamed through three miles of ice from two to five inches thick to reach her; broke her out, and towed her to clear water; same assistance to Am. schooner *Joker*.

The Post Publishing Company, of Boston, has transmitted to Lieutenant John A. Rhodes, of the revenue marine cutter *Dezler*, a check for \$2,053, being the amount of the fund raised as a testimonial to his bravery in rescuing passengers from the wrecked *City of Columbus*. In accepting the same Lieutenant Rhodes suggested that he be allowed to divide the fund among his brother officers and crew, which request was acceded to by the Post.

In accordance with the recommendation from Secretary Folger, the President has directed the promotion of Lieut. Rhodes, of the Revenue Cutter *Dezler*, for gallant and meritorious conduct on the occasion of the *City of Columbus* disaster.

OBSEQUIES OF DE LONG.

THE bodies of De Long and his comrades are expected to arrive in New York about February 14th, and the programme for their reception has been arranged as follows: The remains will be kept on board the steamer for a few days, so as to allow those who are to participate in the procession time to prepare. When the remains are landed they will be placed in separate hearses, and at noon of that day the procession will move up Broadway to the City Hall Park, through the park to the New York and Brooklyn Bridge and over the Bridge to the Navy Yard. The order of the procession will be as follows:

Platoon of Police.
Detachment of Regular Army Troops.
The Twenty-third, Sixty-ninth, and other Militia Regiments.
Detachment of United States Marines.
Eleven Hearses, containing the Remains of the Dead, in reverse order, those of Jerome Collins, followed by sixteen civilian pallbearers, and those of Dr. Ambler and Lieutenant-Commander De Long bringing up the rear.
Chief Engineer Melville, Lieutenant Dagenbender and the other Surviving Members of the *Jeannette* Expedition.
Carriages containing the immediate Relatives of the Dead.
Civic Societies and Citizens on foot.
Naval Officers on foot.
President Arthur and Members of his Cabinet, Mayor Edson, General Hancock and other Officials in carriages.
Citizens in carriages who are unable to walk by reason of age or sickness.

A line of blue jackets will march as pallbearers on either side of the sailors' hearses and twenty-four Lieutenant-commanders will be the pallbearers of Lieutenant-Commander De Long. After reaching the Navy Yard all the organizations with the exception of the Sixty-ninth regiment will be dismissed. The body of Jerome Collins will then at once be taken on board of a steamboat in waiting, with the Sixty-ninth regiment, naval officers and marines as an escort and landed in New York, at a point nearest to the church in which requiem services are to be held.

The other bodies will lie in state until the next day. Then the body of one sailor will be sent to Philadelphia and that of another to his friends in Virginia. The remains of the others will be taken to Woodlawn Cemetery on a train, composed of the regular Woodlawn funeral car and four coaches, which has been placed at the disposal of Commodore Uphur. The body of Jerome Collins and that of his mother, who died just after her son sailed, will be placed side by side in church two days after the public funeral, and after the requiem services they will be placed on a steamer and conveyed to Cork, Ireland, and buried together. Mrs. Collins's body is now in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Commodore Uphur will ask that the buildings on the line of march be draped.

MINISTER HUNT has forwarded to the Navy Department a letter to him from Lieutenant Giles B. Harber, U. S. N., dated Orenburg, January 20, 1884, in which he gives an interesting account of his journey from Yakutsk, with the remains of Lieutenant-Commander De Long and comrades. Lieutenant Harber relates in detail the honors paid to the dead heroes at the various points at which he stopped while en route, and thanks Minister Hunt for his constant assistance.

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TO LINE OFFICERS OF THE ARMY.

ALL officers of "the line" who have not obtained rank by
"regimental," as they would have done by "lineal" promo-
tion, are requested to communicate, at their earliest con-
venience, with "X. Y. Z.," care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL,
as they may learn of something to their advantage.

ALL the Army officers stationed at Fort Custer, Mon-
tana Territory, have united in a petition to Congress
praying for the passage of Mr. Harmer's bill, No. 2613,
to increase the efficiency of the Army. In the opinion
of the petitioners this bill is the best ever introduced in
Congress to increase the efficiency of the Army. The
hope is expressed that officers at other points will for-
ward to Congress petitions favoring this bill.

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any delay or failure to receive the JOURNAL, so that we may give
the matter our immediate attention.

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MR. FINERTY AND MR. LOGAN'S BILLS.

We gave last week a list of those officers of the
Army who have already completed a service of sixteen
years or more in one grade, and who therefore come
under the provisions of Mr. Finerty's bill granting
promotion to that length of service. There should
have been included in that list Captain and Assistant
Surgeon Azpell on sick leave until further orders, who
completes a service of seventeen years in his present
grade, May 14, 1884, and 1st Lieutenant Winslow, 8th
Infantry, who completed a service of seventeen years
Jan. 17, 1884. We add the following list of officers
who complete a service of sixteen years during the
present year:

Medical Department—One Major and five Captains:
Major and Surgeon Goddard, Jan. 6; Captains and
Assistant Surgeons Middleton, February 15; Koerber,
April 6; De Haune, May 13; Lippincott, Novem-
ber 11. Cavalry—3 Majors and 8 Captains: Majors
Brisbin, Jan. 1; Green, June 9; Merrill, Nov. 27;
Captains Cooney, Jan. 1; Jackson, Feb. 17; Morris,
March 26; Viele, April 23; Rafferty, May 14; Nor-
vell, June 10; Davis, June 19; * Monahan, July 9.
Artillery—1 Captain and 11 1st Lieuts.: Capt. Brew-
erton, September 28; 1st Lieutenants Thurston, Feb.
15; Chase, March 26; Mitchell, June 10; Scantling,
July 1; Grimes, July 20; Taylor, August 25; Reilly,
September 18; Harrold, Sept. 21; Nichols, October
19; Caziare, Nov. 23; Kilbourne, Dec. 3. Infantry
—6 Captains and 15 1st Lieutenants: Captains Schin-
del, Feb. 25; Hobart, March 26; * Keeler, June 5; Coe,
June 19; * Morse, Oct. 2; Lloyd, Dec. 3; 1st Lieuts.
Harwood, January 8; Vernon, January 13; Sharp,
Feb. 14; Thibaut, Feb. 25; Stretch, March 26; Kel-
ton, March 26; Roe, June 10; Richards, June 19;
Rice, July 8; Jones, July 21; Manley, August 31;
Lott, October 14; Hall, Dec. 23; Carland, Dec. 31.

To include these additional officers renders necessary
a new recapitulation of the total number of officers af-
fected by Mr. Finerty's bill, H. R. 3118, as follows:
Adjutant General's Department, 4 Majors; Inspector
General's Department, 2 Lieut.-Colonels; Quartermas-
ter's Department, 8 Captains; Subsistence Department,
2 Majors and 5 Captains; Medical Department, 19 Ma-
jors and 5 Captains; Pay Department, 14 Majors;
Corps of Engineers, 3 Majors; or of Staff and Staff
Corps, 2 Lieut.-Colonels. A total of 62 staff officers:
42 Majors and 18 Captains.

* On sick leave until further orders.

† Continued sick leave.

In the Cavalry Arm, thirty-one in all: 3 Majors, 26
Captains and 2 1st Lieutenants.

In the Artillery Arm, forty-nine: 17 Captains and 32
1st Lieutenants.

In the Infantry Arm, one hundred and forty-six: 105
Captains and 38 1st Lieutenants. Showing a grand total of
two hundred and eighty eight.

This additional list it will be seen includes three field
officers of the line, Majors B. Brisbin, Green and Merrill
of the Cavalry, who reach their limit of 16 years in their
present grade during the current year.

Should Mr. Finerty's bill become a law, the annual
appropriation for pay of the Army would have to be
increased only \$205,234.96, made up as follows:

STAFF AND STAFF CORPS.		
	Each.	Total.
2 Lieut.-colonels promoted colonels.....	\$500 04	\$1,000 08
42 majors promoted lieutenant-colonels.....	499 92	20,996 64
18 captains promoted majors.....	700 06	12,601 44
62 officers. Total increased pay.....		\$34,598 16

LINE OFFICERS.		
Cavalry.		
3 majors promoted lieutenant colonels.....	\$499 92	\$1,499 76
26 captains promoted majors.....	700 06	18,302 07
2 1st lieutenants promoted captains.....	559 92	1,119 84
31 officers. Total increased pay.....		\$20,921 66

Artillery.		
8 captains promoted majors.....	\$980 04	\$7,840 32
29 1st lieutenants promoted captains.....	420 00	12,180 00
Light Batteries—Mounted Pay:		
9 captains promoted majors.....	700 06	6,300 72
3 1st lieutenants promoted captains.....	559 92	1,679 76
49 officers. Total increased pay.....		\$28,003 80

Infantry.		
108 captains promoted majors.....	\$980 04	\$105,844 32
38 1st lieutenants promoted captains.....	420 00	15,960 00
146 officers. Total increased pay.....		\$121,804 32

Senator Logan's bill (S. 1420) to increase the effi-
ciency of the Army is nearly identical with the one he
introduced last year, and there is no doubt that it con-
tains some provisions which would, if adopted, prove
of benefit to the interior economy of the Army. The
substitution of the summary Court-martial for the cum-
bersome garrison or regimental Court is a measure
which we may safely assume all post and company com-
manders earnestly desire; the increase of pay of en-
listed men recommended is moderate and deserved; the
provision allowing officers at posts, apart from settle-
ments, each to employ one private soldier as a servant,
subject to certain specified conditions, will commend
itself, as it does not allow any soldier to be so employed
against his consent, and provides that the pay proper of
the soldier during the period of employment be charged
against the officers. The per diem allowance to officers
serving on Courts-martial away from stations provides
against a hardship which has long been endured. The
provision for civilian clerks at Division and Depart-
ment Headquarters will possibly revive the drooping hope
in the breasts of that worthy class of public servants—the
military general service clerks—but we still cling to
the idea that they are better off in the service, and that
the proper thing to do is to increase their allowances so
as to bring the monthly salary up to a level with the
civilian clerks of the Army. The proviso that the Gov-
ernor of the Military Prison shall have the local rank
of Colonel we have advocated on more than one occa-
sion heretofore. Certainly his responsibility and duties
warrant the increased rank.

The bill winds up with a section designed to author-
ize the enlistment of 150 competent instructors for post
schools, with the rank and pay of commissary sergeants.
Without such a corps there is reason to suppose that the
system of post schools which is now in operation, after
a good deal of labor and expense, may languish, and
perhaps die, for it has been demonstrated, we think,
that while the majority of our recruits nowadays are
intelligent and apt, but few of them possess the quali-
fications necessary in a school teacher, and the emolu-
ments authorized for those detailed to act as such do
not offer much encouragement to remain in the posi-
tion. Senator Logan's bill is an eminently practical
one, and we hope to see it receive proper consideration.

THE Board of Cavalry Officers appointed to meet in
Washington on the 1st of March will consider a num-
ber of plans devised for the improvement of cavalry
equipment. These plans, which will be referred to the
Board by Lieutenant-General Sheridan, were submitted
to him by different Army officers, and the Board will
decide as to their value. The officers composing the
Board, Colonel W. B. Royall, 4th Cavalry; Major G.
V. Henry, 9th Cavalry, and Captain Chas. Bendire, 1st
Cavalry, were selected because of their long and varied
experience. The principal change proposed is that of
the carbine boot, for which various suggestions have
been made. Other changes are in the pistol holster and
the belt.

THE PROTEUS EXPEDITION.

THE report of the *Proteus* Court of Inquiry, which we give this week, is a severe arraignment of General Hazen in his management, not only of the *Proteus* expedition, but of the Signal Bureau. In reference to the expedition, the Court declares that he failed "in an adequate comprehension of the necessities of the case, and of the measures and means essential to meet them." The specific citation of errors and omissions which follows this, is a statement in substance that the management of the relief expedition by General Hazen was a blunder all the way through. His explanation of his reasons for his decision not to make a depot for a winter st, or near, Littleton Island, is declared to be "utterly untenable and illogical," "wholly fallacious and unfounded." Not only is the responsibility for the failure of the expedition put squarely upon General Hazen's shoulders by this report, but the manner of conducting public business in the Signal Office, so far as shown by the *Proteus* business, is declared to be "mischievous," and its method of keeping the record and conducting correspondence, "lax, negligent, and defective." This is a simple statement in brief of the conclusions of the Court, who are, certainly, sufficiently frank and unreserved in their expression of opinion. As they do not find, however, that there was any "wilful neglect or intentional dereliction of duty," a court-martial is not recommended. Lieutenant Garlington is acquitted of every thing except an error of judgment in not waiting longer at Pandora harbor, and his "zeal, energy, and efficiency" in the general conduct of the expedition is commended.

The report of this Court of Inquiry will furnish additional capital to those who urge the transfer of the Signal Service from the War Department, and we may expect another attack upon it when the annual appropriation for it comes to be considered in Congress. It is obvious now, as it should have been in the beginning, that the Signal Bureau was wholly out of place in the attempt to manage a naval expedition. The organization of the Greely relief expedition was a revival of the traditions of the past, when a military officer was placed on board of a ship to command her, and the real master was merely his lieutenant. Such an organization must inevitably result in a division of responsibility fatal to success, and when to this is added, as in the case of the *Proteus*, a further division of responsibility between two or three bureaus at Washington, we have, as the certain result, the wretched muddle which has been made of the attempt to rescue Greely. We dwell upon this now for the reason that we have another expedition on foot, and we do not wish to see former mistakes repeated. Congress has made an unlimited appropriation for the new expedition, and some one should be held to an undivided responsibility before the country for its management. Don't let us have any division of responsibility between the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy in this matter, which concerns not only the lives of the Greely party, but the honor of the Administration at Washington and the reputation of the country.

The report of the Board of Officers appointed to consider plans for the Greely relief expedition, proposes a programme as follows: The relief party to go north in two ships, which should endeavor to reach Upernavik not later than May 15. From Upernavik they should go to Littleton Island and endeavor to open communication with the natives at and north of Cape York. A station, consisting of a house, 50 tons of coal, a steam life cutter, a whale boat, and provisions and clothing for the entire party for one year, should be established on Littleton Island, the stores being taken from ship No. 1, and left in charge of one officer and two men. After leaving Littleton Island, and reaching the ice barrier, the design of the expedition would be for No. 1 to take the first favorable opportunity to push to the northward, leaving No. 2 to serve as a base to fall back upon in case of disaster or for a second attempt to reach Lady Franklin Sound. No. 2 not to enter the ice pack, but to manoeuvre constantly to the southward of it, or to anchor in the immediate vicinity; to be ready to land a second supply of provisions, to consist of the same amount of material proposed for the first, but to include two whale boats in case No. 2 be required to proceed north in the event of disaster to No. 1. Should Smith Sound be comparatively open, No. 1 should advance to the northward, forming small stations at Washington Irving Island and the vicinity of Cape Collinson and Carl Ritter Bay. No. 2, after forming a small station of supplies at Cape Sabine, to proceed as far north as Dobbin Bay, beyond which point she should not advance unless the prolonged absence of No. 1 should give rise to the apprehension of her loss. Should No. 1 be crushed or disabled, No. 2, before attempting to advance north, should land her

house, two boats, and supplies for the whole party for one year, in the vicinity of Dobbin Bay. Should neither vessel be crushed, and should neither succeed in communicating with Lady Franklin Sound, one should winter in Franklin Pierce Bay and the other in the vicinity of Littleton Island. On the way north the coast to be examined from Cape York to Cape Ohlsen on the east side, and from Cape Isabella to Cape Sabine on the west. Cairns should be erected containing notices of the movements and intentions of the relief expedition at Conical Rock, Wolsten Holme Island, Cary Islands, Hakluyt Island, Cape Isabella, and Cape Sabine. The whalers from Dundee and the sealers from Newfoundland to be requested to keep a lookout on the ice floes for Lieut. Greely's party. The naval vessel, or tender, to go as far as Littleton Island or Cape Sabine. It is also suggested that an advance ship should be dispatched through Davis Strait, Baffin and Melville Bays at the earliest possible moment, taking more risks than the relief ships, as it might be able to rescue the party should they have effected a retreat to the entrance of Smith Sound or the Danish settlements.

THE *Mechanical Engineer* in answer to criticisms of the *London Engineer*, recently said:

As regards the Naval Advisory Board, the *London Engineer* does not know the individuals composing it, or it would not have asserted that the members of it have never had any experience with the types they recommend. It is by reason of their experience that they have recommended them. Messrs. Coryell, Esq., is chiefly responsible for the beam engine and the brick furnace, as he would build them. In regard to his experience, he has had over forty years of it, actively engaged in the profession. Twenty odd years of this was as superintendent of one of the oldest marine engine shops in this city. Many years of it were in China, in charge of an English line of steamers. Mr. Coryell is very well known at the Messrs. Inglis, and to continental engineers with whom he has come in contact professionally. Probably no one man has ever had a more extended and generally successful career than Mr. Coryell, who, by the way, will not thank us in the least for these remarks. If the *Chicago*'s machinery is a failure, it will be because his advice has not been followed as regards details. The other members of the Advisory Board we have not the pleasure of an acquaintance with. Mr. Alexander Henderson we know by reputation only, and he is a naval engineer of very wide experience and high standing. We hardly think that these gentlemen should be ranked with tyros from the shops. A man sixty years of age, who has buffeted the ocean in nearly every quarter of the globe, who has had the advantages of observation and actual experience that few have had, even in England, can scarcely be called a tyro. A personal acquaintance since the year 1850 entitles us to speak *ex cathedra* concerning at least one member of the Advisory Board. Our contemporary will not understand the value of experience, or desiring to make odious comparisons. We believe it to be sincere, and devoid of any intent other than friendly service in its criticisms, for we have noticed that it is quite as zealous and outspoken in regard to engineering shortcomings in its own country.

In reply, the *Engineer* says: "It will be seen that our contemporary fails to understand us. We did not mean to assert that the members of the Naval Advisory Board had not experience as engineers; but we did assert that, and repeat, that neither they nor any one else has had any experience with such engines and boilers as it is proposed to put into the *Chicago*. They are purely experimental, and if they succeed, they will also be purely exceptional, and all the experience which has been acquired in this country must go for nothing. Why should experimental engines and boilers, condemned alike by English and American engineers, be put into the *Chicago* is a puzzle to us. It is also a puzzle to us how Mr. Coryell, who is to build the engines and boilers, is allowed to have a seat at the board at all, or, having a seat, why he should be allowed to supply the machinery in question. It is, to say the least, unusual for any member of such a board to recommend the adoption, we shall not say of his own designs, but the giving of a large contract to himself or the firm to which he belongs. They manage some things, however, in the United States as they are managed nowhere else."

THE following petition, signed by Major Livingston, 4th Art., urging the passage of an act fixing and establishing the rank held by officers of the line of the Army in the grades reached by successive promotions, was presented to the House of Representatives on Monday:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

Section 1204, R. S., directs that promotions in the Army shall be linear through the several lines of the Army; but this just and wise provision for succession in rank has been set aside by act of the War Dept. It is now possible, and often happens, that officers who originally entered the same regiment or same arm of service are made to exchange places, the junior becoming the senior, he be ever so many years the junior in years and entry into the service. This unjust, unwise misapplication of the law could be easily corrected in the case of all officers now on the active list. This adjustment has been proposed by the War Department (Adjutant-General's Office) heretofore, and for many years, on the ground of the great labor and confusion that would result from its execution. The correction in each Army Register as issued could be made in the several grades with no trouble, and if promotion then followed according to law a period of less than five years would see the whole thing arranged without confusion, and without disturbing any one in the grade now held. Should any amount of labor be held as justification for violation of law, deprivation of an officer of his rights? As this adjustment would be in accordance with present law, and secure even handed justice to all, your petitioner prays that an act of Congress be passed fixing and establishing the rank that should be held by officers now of the line of the Army, in the grade reached by successive promotion, and your petitioner will ever pray.

L. R. L. LIVINGSTON, Major 4th Art.

In a separate petition Major Livingston prays that his record be corrected by providing by appropriate enactment that he shall be entitled to promotion to lieutenant-colonel first before Major R. N. Scott, for-

merly Capt. 3d Art., Major Scott, he claims, having been illegally transferred to the artillery and placed upon the Register next above him.

THE results of target firing in the Department of California during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1883, as published in recent orders, are highly satisfactory, the "Figure of Merit" standing at 47.49 against 34.73 in 1882. The 1st Cavalry, (Troops G, I and M) has its share of marksmen. The 1st U. S. Artillery, has a noble array, and the 8th U. S. Infantry, makes an excellent showing. It is gratifying to find the names of so many commissioned officers in the list, for it indicates an interest which insures good results. Among them we find Captains F. K. Upham, C. C. Carr, Moses Harris and Lieutenants Aleshire, and Tate, of the Cavalry, Captains J. W. Dillenback, Tully McCrea, and W. L. Haskin and Lieuts. H. W. Hubbell, H. O. Benson, J. V. White, W. P. Van Ness, F. S. Harlow, H. M. Andrews, J. T. Honeycutt, J. L. Chamberlin, J. S. Oyster, C. H. Hunter, F. C. Nichols, and F. S. Rice, of the Artillery, Captains E. B. Savage, D. T. Wells, A. W. Corliss, and Lieutenants J. McE. Hyde, C. A. Earnest, and R. F. Ames of the Infantry. In almost every company the first sergeant has qualified and a long list of sergeants, corporals and privates complete a capital record.

THE *San Francisco Report* says that while it is strongly opposed to Army favoritism, it does not see how it is to be abolished by Congressional enactment, and thinks General Sherman quite right in protesting in his recent letter to the Military Committee against Congressional interference. The *Report* says: "If a general cannot be trusted to single out for, and keep to special duty, such of his officers as are best fitted for such duty, he cannot be trusted with the command of an Army. When a general has found a man that just suits him for any particular kind of work, he ought to be allowed to use him for it as long as he chooses. It is only by this method of selection that an Army can be made efficient. Even in the German Army, where competitive examination rules almost every promotion and change, the officers in supreme command are given a wide discretion. An officer detached from his regiment may be worth one hundred times more than he would be doing routine duty with his company. It is for the heads of the Army to judge of these individual cases. Congress cannot judge of them, and should not try."

ABOUT a hundred Army and Navy officers were present at the special meeting of the Washington Branch of the Naval Institute, held at the Navy Department on Monday evening. The meeting was called to order by Lieut.-Commander Folger, who came down from Annapolis especially to attend the meeting. The lecture by Dr. R. J. Gatling, the inventor of the Gatling gun, on "Machine Guns—The Gatling Gun; Its Positive Fed, High Angle Fire, and Use in War," was listened to with great interest by all present. After the paper was read the subject was generally discussed and numerous practical suggestions were advanced, General Benét, Colonel Whittemore, Lieut.-Commander Folger, and others taking part. Following the discussion was the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of Commander W. T. Sampson as president, and Lieut. J. A. Moore as secretary.

CONGRESS passed a bill on Monday appropriating \$300,000 for the relief of sufferers from the floods on the Ohio River, and on the day following the Secretary of War had his plans for furnishing immediate assistance in operation. He ordered General Beckwith, of the Commissary Department, from St. Louis to Cincinnati, giving him the general control of the work of distribution, with headquarters at the latter city. He also ordered an officer to Pittsburg to operate there under General Beckwith's directions. The plan of relief is similar to that which proved so satisfactory during the Mississippi flood of last year. Boats will be chartered and loaded with provisions at available points and sent in different directions for the distribution of supplies. An Army officer will be detailed to command each boat, to see that the distribution is properly made. The prompt actions of the Secretary of War are very commendable.

GEORGE DAVIDSON, who has been for some years chief clerk to General M. P. Small, of the Subsistence Department, United States Army, now on duty in New York, was arrested a few days ago, on a charge of taking certain moneys accruing from the sale of subsistence stores, and appropriating them to his own use; making certain false entries on vouch-

ers, going forward to cover the transaction. The false entry was made on a voucher for the month of November, 1880, which accompanied the returns to Washington, and not enumerated on the retained vouchers, said voucher purporting to be paid by check No. 5842, November 30, 1880, for \$3,687.78, which was a fraudulent entry; no such check having been drawn. The actual amount of said check was for \$37.78, for a purchase of vinegar. The remainder, \$3,650, was a fraudulent entry of 7,300 packages of apples at 50 cts. per package. This was made by Davidson, as claimed by him, in collusion with another clerk in the subsistence service at Chicago depot, and was to cover up deficiencies in money taken from the monthly sales, and which had to be accounted for when the depot was transferred, November 30, 1880.

Mr. Slocum's bill, No. 1017, relative to the Inspector General's Department of the Army, was reported to the House on Tuesday. The committee, after giving a history of this department of the Army from its organization to the present time, says: "The Committee is of the opinion that the Inspector General's Department should consist of one brigadier general, two colonels, two lieutenant-colonels and six majors. If the Inspector Generals are officers of sufficient rank, carefully selected and retained permanently for their special duty, it is believed that officers with an aggregate annual pay of \$33,500 could properly perform the duties now assigned to fourteen officers with an aggregate annual pay of \$39,100. Economical and efficient service can best be obtained through officers carefully selected and permanently employed in duties which demand a special capacity. Such special capacity is certainly needed in performing the duties, as at present defined, of Inspector General. An officer detailed from the line needs a certain time to learn his novel duties, and while he is thus employed his regiment is deprived of the services which would be of value to it. The injury inflicted on regiments of volunteers during the late war by the large details of officers for staff duty, and of enlisted men to the Quartermaster, Commissary and Medical Departments, is notorious."

Chief Engineer Isherwood has filed with the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs in answer to questions from the Chairman, his views in writing on Mr. Hale's bill providing for the construction of new vessels and on the vessels now building. It is understood that his testimony is not favorable to the new cruisers. In this respect he differs widely from the opinions expressed by the majority of other officers who appeared before the committee. Among other things he favors sheathing and objects to vertical engines. His testimony is being printed and will be included with that heretofore given as part of the report of the committee.

Admiral Porter appeared before the House Naval Committee and argued in favor of his plan for building a gunboat, the result being an agreement on the part of the committee to offer an amendment to the Naval Appropriation bill appropriating \$250,000 to build at one of the Government navy-yards a boat according to his plans. Prof. Jeffries was before the Committee on Friday and gave his views on the subject of color blindness in the Navy.

"A VOLUNTEER," in the London Times, urges riflemen to use two eyes in shooting instead of one. The present method, practiced by most target shots, of shutting one eye and looking through the sights with the other, is unnatural, he tells us; and all marksmen know that after a time it causes a painful strain on the single eye. Besides, it is a device which cannot be used with any degree of success on a battle-field—where the light is shifting and uncertain, where the view is obscured by smoke, and where, in short, the soldier wants to have both his eyes open to see the moving objects at which he is aiming—however useful it may be for shooting at a fixed target with the sights accurately adjusted to a range which, of course, is known to a yard.

CHAIRMAN RANDALL, Mr. Calkins, and several other members of the House Appropriation Committee called on Secretary Chandler at the Navy Department on Wednesday to talk over and hear suggestions on the Naval Appropriation bill before taking any action upon it in the House. The Secretary was firm in his convictions that a larger appropriation should be made for Ordnance, and it is believed so convinced the committee.

THE Court of Claims has decided against the claim of Commander C. M. Schoonmaker v. The United States for sea duty pay while performing duty in connection with inspection of light-houses.

In a report to Congress on the subject of equalization of bounties the Adjutant General of the Army gives the number of men who enlisted for the various periods during the war, showing a total of 2,772,366, as follows:

For three years.....	2,030,804
For two years.....	44,400
For one year.....	391,752
For nine months.....	87,588
For eight months.....	373
For six months.....	20,439
For four months.....	42
For one hundred days.....	85,507
For three months.....	108,416
For sixty days.....	3,045

Up to April 22, 1876, according to a report of the Paymaster General, there had been paid in bounties \$385,917,682, and since then to date \$2,292,567, making a total of \$388,210,249.

SEVERAL members of the Michigan delegation in Congress called upon President Arthur, on Saturday last, to urge the claims of Gen. O. B. Willcox, U. S. A., to be promoted to brigadier general on the occurrence of a vacancy. Senator Palmer was the spokesman of the occasion. Gen. Willcox was born in Michigan, and appointed to the Military Academy from that State; hence the special interest displayed by citizens of that State in his advancement.

THE claims of the following officers for longevity pay were settled by the Second Comptroller during the past week: Ulio, James, 1st lieutenant, 2d Infantry; Clarke, Luke, 1st sergeant, A. 13th Infantry, 2d lieutenant, U. S. A., retired; Hubbard, Edw. B., captain, A. Q. M., U. S. A.; Haines, Abner, captain, 2d Infantry, U. S. A.; Taylor, Sidney W., 1st lieutenant, 4th Artillery; Cain, A. B., captain, 4th U. S. Infantry; Treadwell, Thos. J., lieutenant-colonel of ordnance, U. S. A.

In the list we gave last week (p. 569) of officers still in service, who have been recommended for retirement, or found incapacitated by Army Retiring Boards, erroneously appeared the name of Lieutenant W. Howe, 4th U. S. Artillery. The officer of that regiment to whom we had reference was Lieutenant M. W. Howe, who died June 16, 1879.

WE are requested to state, with reference to Colonel Henry's pamphlet on shooting, which we noticed in our issue of January 26, that only a few were printed for the use of his post at Fort Sill. We are in receipt of applications for some, and if sufficient orders are received, will have some struck off, and sent post paid for ten cents a copy.

FIFTY-TWO Apache pupils from San Carlos and two Pueblos from New Mexico were handed over to Capt. R. H. Pratt, U. S. A., at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., early in the week, to be civilized and educated. The San Carlos pupils were accompanied by the three principal men of the Apache tribe and one of Gen. Crook's most trusted Apache scouts, who will remain at the school for several days to satisfy themselves as to the treatment and instruction their children are to receive. These Indian pupils were induced to come to the school by Gen. Crook.

CHIEF ENGINEER MELVILLE was called to Washington this week to consult with the Secretary of the Navy with reference to the fitting out of the Greely Relief Expedition. The Department will depend much upon his advice in this matter.

ACCORDING to previous announcement, General Stone read a paper on Military Affairs in Egypt, before the Military Service Institution, at their rooms, on Governor's Island, on Thursday afternoon, of this week. The critical aspect of affairs in Egypt at the present time gave an additional interest to General Stone's subject, and his remarks were listened to by a large and an appreciative audience. Major General Hancock presided.

AN interesting report of Colonel W. J. Volkmar, U. S. A., of his observations while attending the annual manœuvres of the French Army at Chalons last year has been received by the War Department. The report dwells in detail upon the Cavalry service of France, and makes some valuable suggestions as to how we might improve our own Cavalry Arm in the important matter of remounts. The "dynamite caisson" attached to the horse batteries of the "independent cavalry division" is alluded to as a recent introduction.

THE detail of officers to the Artillery School will be made very shortly, certainly before the end of the present month. The orders are delayed somewhat pending the settlement of a few minor questions.

COMMODORE Upshur has announced the programme for the reception in New York next week of the remains of Lieutenant Commander De Long and party, and is substantially that referred to last week.

The pall-bearers selected for the body of Lieutenant Commander De Long are: Lieutenant Commanders F. M. Barber, J. E. Noel, F. Hubbard, J. F. Newell, J. E. Craig, C. H. Thomas, R. D. Hitchcock, W. H. Brownson, E. L. Amery, W. E. Buford and T. Perry. Accompanying the body of Surgeon Ambler as pall-bearers will be Passed Assistant Surgeons Jones, Lipincott, Henneberger, Ames, Whiting, Craig, Rush, Gaines, Rixey and McClurg. The memorial pall to Lieutenant Chipp will be surrounded by a number of the lieutenant's classmates. The pall-bearers for the body of Jerome J. Collins will be personal friends and fellow journalists. It is expected that the main public ceremonies will take place on Washington's Birthday, February 21.

THE ill-feeling between the Naval Affairs and Appropriation Committees which last year disturbed the Senate seems to have reached the other end of the Capitol this year. These two committees of the House are at war, and heated debates may be expected between them before the House Appropriation bill is out of the way. Neither of the committees care to shoulder the responsibility of favoring the proposed reduction of the staff corps and the consolidation of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting with that of Provisions and Clothing. The Naval Committee feel sore over the action of the Appropriation Committee in not inserting the recommendations for these changes made by them, and have reconsidered them, deciding not to offer them when the Naval Appropriation bill is up for amendment in the House. These recommendations were referred back to the Naval Committee by the Appropriation Committee after the Naval bill had been reported to the House, with the request that the Naval Committee take charge of them in the House. It is said these recommendations originated in the Appropriation Committee and were referred to the Naval Committee for concurrence. This committee agreed to them, and is not pleased to have the Appropriation Committee ignore them and believe they have just cause for refusing to favor these appropriations in the House. It is understood, however, that the proposition to reduce the staff corps will be brought forward by one of the members of the Naval Committee.

Mr. Long's bill (H. R. 4483), to establish a Retired List for the Revenue Marine, should receive the favorable consideration of Congress. The same object could have been accomplished by the passage of the bill of last year, making the Revenue Marine a part of the Navy, but however it is accomplished, the establishment of the principle of retirement for this service is just and proper. The record we give this week of the winter's work of some of our Revenue Cutters shows to what hardships the officers of those vessels are constantly subjected; what useful work they are doing, and how worthy they are of the consideration of Congress.

GENERAL A. J. Alexander, U. S. A., who has been seriously ill with pneumonia, at Willowbrook, Auburn, N. Y., is now glad to learn, convalescent.

A despatch from Pierre states that at 3 P. M., February 12, a fire broke out at Fort Sully, and by 5 P. M. three companies had been burned out. There seemed to be no chance of staying the fire, as the Missouri river, the nearest water, is a mile distant, and fears were entertained that the entire barracks would be destroyed, and the command have to go into camp, which with the mercury away below zero, was anything but a pleasant prospect. Fort Sully is garrisoned by Headquarters and Cos. A, D, E and K, 11th Infantry, and the officers present are Colonel Dodge, Major Krause, Captain Cunby, Wilcox, and Jackson, Lieutenant Luit, Hoyt, Whitney, Handforth, Taylor, Travis, Hoffman, Blatchford and Emery, Dr. Landerdale and Chaplain Crocker.

General Dimond, of the California National Guard, has invited the Regular troops at the posts in the harbor of San Francisco to take part in a brigade drill to be held on Washington's Birthday.

NAVY YARD, BOSTON.

COMMODORE Badger turned over the command of the yard to Capt. Chandler last week, and went on a month's leave of absence.

Commander C. V. Gridley, U. S. N., left for New York on Monday to take command of the *Portsmouth*.

Chief Engineer Robie has moved his family to New York, and Chief Engineer Macomb has reported for duty here. Chaplain Tribon is sick in bed at 22 Monument avenue, where his family are boarding.

RECENT DEATHS.

JUDGE EDWARD GREEN BRADFORD died at Wilmington, Del., January 16, leaving a widow and nine children, one of whom is Captain J. H. Bradford, 19th U. S. Infantry. The deceased gentleman was born in Maryland in 1819, and commenced the study of law in 1839, and afterwards engaged actively in politics. He served in the Delaware Legislature, was District Attorney for the Delaware District from 1861 to 1866, and during the war was an ardent supporter of the Union. In 1871 President Grant appointed him Judge of the U. S. District for Delaware, and besides he held several other responsible local positions. He was a man of scholarly attainments and sterling character, and his memory will long be cherished in the State which he served so faithfully and well.

SIR EDWARD MORTIMER ARCHIBALD, who was for so many years British Consul, and afterwards Consul General, in New York, died last week in London, of pneumonia. His death will be deeply regretted by many of our citizens, by whom he was held in high esteem.

DOCTOR JOHN FOUQUE FAUNTLEBOY died at Leesburg, Va., February 4, in his seventy-fifth year. He was a brother of General T. T. Fauntleboy, formerly Colonel of the 1st Dragoons, who died a few months ago.

THE REV. B. W. STONE, who was chaplain of Harris's New York Light Cavalry during the war, died on Monday of this week. He was for many years Rector of St. Barnabas's Episcopal Church, Reading, Pa.

CAPT. F. T. STAREWEATHER, who served with distinction in the Volunteer Service during the war, in the Army of the Cumberland, died recently at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

AFTER much suffering, Mrs. Trevino, wife of General Trevino, of Mexico, and daughter of the late General E. O. C. Ord, U. S. A., died at Old Point Comfort, Va., on the night of February 10, at the residence of her mother. The death of her daughter coming, as it does, so close to the arrival in the United States of the remains of General Ord, now expected daily, has plunged Mrs. Ord in the deepest affliction.

COLONEL George Bowers, a veteran of the Mexican war, died at Nashua, N. H., Feb. 14.

FORT LEAVENWORTH SCHOOL.

Circular No. 1, Headquarters U. S. Infantry and Cavalry School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Feb. 2, 1884, reports the class standing as follows:

The staff of the United States Infantry and Cavalry School, sitting as a board of examiners to hear the examinations of the officers pursuing instruction in the school, in those subjects of study which have been theoretically considered during the term just concluded, and to determine relative merit as shown by class standing during said term, and manifested proficiency upon examinations, has reported officers for excellence of proficiency, in numerical order, as follows:

FIRST CLASS.

1. 2d Lieutenant J. A. Irons, 20th Infantry.
2. 2d Lieutenant E. St. J. Greble, 2d Artillery.
3. 2d Lieut. J. F. Morrison, 20th Infantry.
4. 2d Lieutenant J. D. Mann, 7th Cavalry.
5. 2d Lieutenant H. L. Ripley, 24th Infantry.
6. 1st Lieutenant F. W. Mansfield, 11th Infantry.
7. 2d Lieutenant W. M. Dickinson, 4th Cavalry.
8. 1st Lieut. J. A. Baldwin, 9th Infantry.
9. 2d Lieut. J. F. R. Landis, 1st Cavalry.
10. 2d Lieutenant A. C. Ducot, Jr., 3d Cavalry.
11. 2d Lieutenant F. B. Andrus, 4th Infantry.
12. 2d Lieutenant S. A. Wolfe, 4th Infantry.
13. 2d Lieutenant A. M. Fuller, 2d Cavalry.
14. 2d Lieutenant R. D. Read, Jr., 10th Cavalry.
15. 2d Lieutenant A. R. Paxton, 15th Infantry.
16. 2d Lieutenant O. S. Hall, 13th Cavalry.
17. 2d Lieutenant W. E. Almy, 5th Cavalry.
18. 2d Lieutenant L. H. Strother, 1st Infantry.
19. 2d Lieutenant C. A. Churchill, 5th Infantry.
20. 2d Lieutenant G. R. Bennett, 9th Cavalry.
21. 1st Lieutenant T. A. Toney, 6th Cavalry.
22. 2d Lieutenant W. E. P. French, 3d Infantry.
23. 2d Lieutenant W. Engleish, 17th Infantry.
24. 2d Lieutenant E. O. C. Ord, 22d Infantry.
25. 1st Lieutenant G. S. Young, 7th Infantry.
26. 2d Lieutenant R. B. Steedman, 16th Infantry.
27. 2d Lieutenant Wm. Moffatt, 2d Infantry.

SECOND CLASS.

1. 2d Lieutenant C. B. Hardin, 18th Infantry.
2. 2d Lieutenant J. J. Shaw, 6th Infantry.
3. 2d Lieutenant D. F. Anglim, 12th Infantry.
4. 2d Lieutenant L. J. Hearn, 21st Infantry.
5. 2d Lieutenant C. S. Fowler, 19th Infantry.
6. 2d Lieutenant W. A. Mercer, 8th Infantry.
7. 1st Lieutenant R. A. Lovell, 14th Infantry.
8. 2d Lieutenant J. S. Mason, 1st Infantry.
9. 2d Lieutenant S. A. Dyer, 23d Infantry.
10. 2d Lieutenant John Guest, 8th Cavalry.
11. 2d Lieutenant E. P. Brower, 7th Cavalry.
12. 1st Lieutenant J. C. Dent, 20th Infantry.
13. 2d Lieutenant C. J. T. Clarke, 10th Infantry.
14. 2d Lieutenant J. E. Mecklin, 11th Infantry.
15. 2d Lieutenant A. T. Dean, 4th Cavalry.

LATE ARMY ORDERS.

Capt. G. E. Pond, A. Q. M., is relieved from duty in New York City, and will report, on or before March 15, to the Commissary General, Department of the Missouri, for duty (S. O. H. Q. A., Feb. 14).

The leave of Capt. W. W. Dougherty, 22d Inf., is extended one month (S. O. H. Q. A., Feb. 14).

1st Lieut. A. G. Tassin, 12th Inf., is relieved from duty at Fort Monroe, Va., and will join his company at Madison Barracks (S. O. H. Q. A., Feb. 14).

FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

The following bills were passed by the Senate on Monday: S. 363. Authorizing the Secretary of War to issue to Oscar Eastmond, a commission as Colonel, and to James W. Atwill a commission as Lieut.-Col. of the 1st Regiment North Carolina Volunteers. S. 439. To reimburse George A. Jaeger, late lieutenant 10th Inf., for personal effects lost by the burning of his quarters at Camp Halleck, Nevada, Oct. 7, 1874.

The following bills were favorably acted upon by the Senate Military committee on Tuesday: S. 1140. To reimburse Lieut. George W. Kingsbury, U. S. A., for property lost by the burning of his quarters at Ft. Whipple, Arizona, on the 27th of Oct. 1878, so amended as to limiting the amount to \$550. S. 478. Authorizing the Secretary of War to turn over to the Interior Department certain parts of the Camp Douglas Reservation. S. 207. Providing for the employment of civilian clerks in the Staff Departments of the Army where the services of enlisted men cannot for any reason be used. Bills Nos. 809 and 483 for the relief of the States of California and Nevada respectively were disagreed to and adversely reported. Also bill No. 642 to appoint Wm. P. Hogarty upon the retired list of the Army. Mr. Logan's bill to increase the efficiency of the Army was discussed but not finally agreed upon. It will probably be reported at the next meeting. The nomination of Cooper and Bigelow were not acted upon.

The following bills were reported favorably from the Senate Naval Affairs Committee on Monday: S. 660, 661, 662, to restore Commander James H. Sands, Commander Charles D. Sigbee, and Commander Henry Glass to their original relative positions on the Navy list, next below Commanders McGregor, Evans and Shepard. S. 867, for the relief of the officers and crew of the U. S. steamer *Monitor* who participated in the action with the rebel ironclad *Merrimac* on the 9th day of March, 1862. S. 1039, for the relief of the survivors of the exploring steamer *Jeannette*, and the widows and children of those who perished in the retreat from the wreck of that vessel in the Arctic seas.

Mr. Hale reported adversely from the Senate Naval Committee, on Wednesday, the joint resolution No. 50, limiting the appropriation for the Greeley relief expedition to \$500,000. By a vote of 27 to 26, the resolution was subsequently indefinitely postponed by the Senate. The committee, at its regular meeting on Thursday, passed favorably upon bills S. 76, to appoint Lieut. Wm. P. Randall, a lieutenant commander on the retired list of the Navy, and S. 427, to promote Thomas G. Corbin, now a captain on the retired list of the Navy, to the position of rear admiral on the retired list, next after Rear Admiral J. W. Nicholson, being the rank he would have been entitled to if he had been retained upon the active list, and promoted according to seniority. Reports of last Congress were adopted on both of these bills. The committee discussed the bills for the restoration of Messrs. Quackenbush and Cogswell to the service, but came to no agreement thereon. The nominations sent to the Senate this week were favorably agreed to. Mr. Hale's bill to promote the efficiency of the Navy will probably be considered at the meeting next week. If the protests which have been filed against it mean anything, the bill will doubtless receive an unfavorable report. Several other communications have been received since those mentioned last week, not a single one of which has a word to say in its favor. The bill for the relief of Chief Engineer George W. Melville will receive a favorable report from the committee at an early day. Mr. Anthony has it in charge.

The Senate Military Committee at a special meeting on Friday decided adversely on the bills to appoint J. L. Powell an Assistant Surgeon and to give commissioned officers after having served twenty years as captains or regimental staff officers pay and allowances of next higher grade. It was also decided to report adversely a large number of bills relating to officers of volunteer service. The following were favorably reported: For relief of Major James Belger; to settle accounts of the State of South Carolina for use of arms during the war; to locate Branch Home for Volunteer Soldiers in either Kansas or Iowa; to pay South Carolina for occupation of Citadel Academy at Charleston, and to provide promotion in Corps of Judge Advocates. A substitute was adopted for the latter bill providing that this Corps shall consist of one brigadier general, one colonel, two lieutenant colonels and four majors, and that promotions up to the grade of colonel should be by seniority.

The Senate resolutions authorizing Rear-Admirals Nicholson, Shufeldt and Baldwin to accept presents from foreign governments were passed by the Senate on Friday. All the Navy nominations are confirmed.

But little progress was made by the subcommittees in charge of the Fortification and Army Appropriation bills this week. The House Committee on Appropriations has given most of its time to considering an appropriation for the relief of the sufferers by the Ohio flood.

The following resolution was presented in the House on Monday by Mr. Springer and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs:

Resolved, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interests, to transmit to the House of Representatives all correspondence between this Government and the Republic of Mexico relative to the recent military expedition commanded by General Crook, in which expedition United States troops crossed the border and entered the Mexican territory in pursuit of hostile Indians, and also all reports made to the President to the War Department in reference to such expedition.

The only measure of any importance acted upon by the Military Committee of the House on Tuesday was the bill H. R. 3818, authorizing the extension of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company to a point on the military lands at Fortress Monroe, Va. This bill was reported favorably to the House. Several bills authorizing the repair of roads to various military cemeteries were favorably acted upon.

The House Committee on Appropriations, on Mon-

day, finished consideration of the Military Academy Appropriation bill, and it was reported to the House. The amount recommended is \$306,989, being \$76,271 less than the estimates and \$11,669 less than the appropriation for the present year. The bill appropriates \$500 for renewing furniture in section rooms and \$5,000 for reflooring the Academy building and cadet barracks; for additional bathtubs \$2,000 are appropriated, and for a new bake oven \$650.

Ex-Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, was given a hearing by the House Military Committee, on Friday, on the bill providing for the establishment of a Soldiers' Home at Erie, Penn.

BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE.

Joint Res., S. R. 61, Mr. Vance. To authorize Lieut. Henry B. Lemly, United States Army, to accept a position under the Government of the United States of Colombia.

S. 697, intended to be proposed by Mr. Miller, of California, to the bill S. 697 to promote the efficiency of the Navy, viz.: Strike out the first three sections and insert in lieu thereof the following: That the active list of line officers of the Navy, in addition to the present Admiral and Vice-Admiral, whose pay and rank shall continue as heretofore, shall consist of six vice-admirals, having the pay now allowed by law to rear-admirals, and ranking with major-generals; ten rear-admirals, having the pay now allowed by law to commodores, and ranking with brigadier-generals; 80 captains; 90 commanders; 127 lieutenant-commanders, 290 lieutenants, and 190 ensigns. The junior grade of lieutenant is hereby abolished, and the officers now in that grade shall be immediately commissioned as lieutenants. The rate of pay of the 210 senior lieutenants shall be that now allowed by law to lieutenants, estimated from the date of their commission as such if commissioned before the passage of this act, and from the date of their reaching the 210th number in the grade if commissioned after the passage of this act; and the rate of pay for all other lieutenants shall be that now allowed by law to lieutenants of the junior grade, estimated from the date of their commission as masters, or, if they have not been masters, from the date of their commission as junior lieutenants, if they have held such commission.

"Sec. 2. That immediately after the passage of this act all officers shall be retired who are to attain the age of sixty-two years within two years from January 1, 1884, the commodores so retired to have the rank of rear-admiral; and the commodores remaining on the list shall be appointed, in the order of their seniority, to the grade of vice-admiral and rear-admiral, subject to the usual examination; and section 1445 of the Revised Statutes, excluding officers of the junior grades of the line and staff corps from retirement on account of age, is hereby repealed.

"Sec. 3. That whenever a vacancy shall occur in the list of rear-admirals or in that of captains, a board shall be convened, to be composed of not less than three officers of flag rank, who shall designate, in the case of each vacancy in the rear-admiral's list two captains, and in the case of every fourth vacancy in the captain's list one commander, to be retired; and the captain and commanders so designated shall be placed on the retired list of their grade the same as if they had been retired on account of age; and thereafter the senior captain or the senior commander, as the case may be, shall be promoted to fill the vacancy in the grade above: Provided, That no officer shall be reduced in rank or deprived of his commission under any provision of this act."

In section 5, lines 4 to 6, strike out the words "Provided, That the ensigns so commissioned shall not be subject to the action of the board required by the first section of this act."

OPERATION OF FOREGOING AMENDMENT.

Grades.	Number in each grade.	Number of years' service in each grade.	Age at which promoted to—	Number promoted each year to—	Percentage of casualties each year.	Increase in number in each grade over present law.
Ensign.....	150	5	22	33.0	3.3	-28
Lieutenant.....	290	15	27	29.0	3.0	-35
Lieutenant-commander.....	127	15	39	20.0	3.0	+3
Commander.....	90	6	46	16.4	3.0	+5
Captain.....	80	6	52	10.6	3.3	+5
Commodore.....	10	6	57	3.6
Rear-admiral.....	10	6	57	3.6	4.5
Vice-admiral.....	6	6	57	3.6
Total.....	723	40

S. 1353, Mr. Butler. That William McNamara, a sergeant of Troop A, Fourth Cavalry, U. S. Army, shall be entitled to receive pay and allowances as a soldier in the U. S. Army in such manner and with the same rights as if he had been continuously in the Military service of the Government from the date of his original enlistment, October 3, 1861: Provided, That he shall receive no pay or allowances in addition to those already received by him during the interval between his discharge and the ratification of this act.

S. 1395, Mr. Logan. To amend section 4787 of the Revised Statutes to read as follows: "Sec. 4787. Every officer, soldier, seaman, and marine who was disabled, during the war for the suppression of the Rebellion, in the military or naval service, and in the line of duty, or in consequence of wounds received or disease contracted therein, and who was furnished by the War Department, since the 17th day of June, 1870, with an artificial limb or apparatus for resection, or who was entitled to receive such limb or apparatus since said date, shall be entitled to receive a new limb or apparatus at the expiration of every three years thereafter, under such regulations as have been or may be prescribed by the Surgeon-General of the Army. The provisions of this section shall apply to all officers, non-commissioned officers, enlisted and hired men of the land and naval forces of the United States who, in the line of their duty as such, shall have lost limbs or sustained bodily injuries depriving them of the use of any of their limbs, to be determined by the Surgeon-General of the Army; and the term of three years herein specified shall be held to commence in each case with the filing of the application for the benefits of this section."

S. 1435, Mr. Pike. To fix the positions of the assistant astronomers at the Naval Observatory. That upon the passage of this act the assistant astronomers at the Naval Observatory be commissioned as assistant astronomers, with the same rank, pay, and provision of retirement as provided for assistant naval constructors in section 1,477, 1,556, 1,443, and 1,444 of the Revised Statutes; and that the previous service of these assistant astronomers of the Naval Observatory, whether continuous or otherwise, be taken into account in reckoning their longevity pay.

Sec. 2 That for any further appointments to or to fill any vacancies in the position as assistant astronomer of the Naval Observatory candidates shall be examined by a board of medical examiners and a board of professors of mathematics at the Naval Observatory as to their physical and professional qualifications for the duties of an assistant astronomer, and no candidate shall be appointed without a favorable report from these boards; and that these examinations shall be open to all who apply to the Secretary of the Navy for permission to appear before the said boards.

S. 1490, Mr. Bayard. To complete a statue of the late Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont, U. S. Navy.

S. 1495, Mr. Miller. To provide for the proper rewarding of Chief Engineer George W. Melville, U. S. Navy, for meritorious services, and so forth.

[Is the same in substance as H. R. 2640 and H. R. 2662, for the same purpose. There is also a H. Res. (93) which appears to be the same as that introduced last year to give Mr. Melville the thanks of Congress and promote him one grade.]

BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE.

H. R. 3335, Mr. Slocum. Amends Sec. 1754, Rev. Stat. to read as follows: "Persons honorably discharged from the military or naval service shall be preferred for appointment to civil offices: *Provided*, That they are found to possess the business capacity necessary for the proper discharge of the duties of such offices."

H. R. 3344, Mr. Bagley. To amend the act entitled "An act to provide for furnishing trusses to disabled soldiers," so as to give them to all officers under the rank of major.

H. R. 3436, Mr. Morton E. Post. To authorize the Cheyenne, Black Hills and Montana Railway Company to build its road across the Fort Russell and Fort Laramie Military Reservations.

H. R. 3545, Mr. Randall. For the relief of the sufferers by the explosion at the United States arsenal at Frankford, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

H. R. 3585, Mr. John Winans. That C. B. Bird, of the First Congressional District of Wisconsin, who was dismissed from the Naval Academy at Annapolis on September 15, 1863, be, and he is hereby, reinstated in that institution, in the class of which he was a member at the time of such dismissal.

H. R. 4169, Mr. Ferrell. For the relief of William S. Stryker. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay to William S. Stryker, of New Jersey, the sum of \$400, that being the amount found short in a package received by him as Paymaster, United States Army, in July, 1865, said to contain the sum of \$400,000, the loss occurring without any fault or negligence on the part of the said Stryker, and which was made good by him out of his own private funds.

H. R. 4477, Mr. Holton. To settle the claim of John B. Bond, late captain's clerk and acting purser aboard the United States brig *Bainbridge*, and Judge-Advocate aboard the *Yorktown* from April 1, 1845, to July 25, 1850, and to allow him the usual compensation therefor, deducting his pay as captain's clerk for the same time.

H. R. 4483, Mr. Long. That when any officer of the Revenue Marine shall be incapable of performing the duties of his office he shall be either retired from active service or wholly retired from the service; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to convene a board, to number not more than five nor less than three members, which shall consist of two or more officers of the Revenue Marine and one or two surgeons of the Marine Hospital service, who shall be sworn in every case to discharge their duties honestly and impartially; and such board may inquire into and determine the facts touching the nature and occasion of the disability of any officer who may appear before it under the authority of the Treasury Department, and shall have such powers of a court of inquiry as may be necessary for that purpose; and when such board shall find an officer incapacitated for active service it shall also find and report the cause which, in its judgment, has produced his incapacity, and whether such cause is an incident of service.

Sec. 2. That when such board shall find an officer of the Revenue Marine incapacitated for active service, and that his incapacity is the result of an incident of service, said officer shall be retired from active service and placed on the list of retired officers of the Revenue Marine, at a compensation of three-fourths of the duty pay provided by law for officers of his grade at the date of such retirement; and when such board shall find that an officer is incapacitated for active service, and that his incapacity is not the result of any incident of the service, and its decision is approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, the officer shall be retired from active service at one-half the pay of his grade, or wholly retired from the service: *Provided*, That any officer who shall be wholly retired from the service under the foregoing provisions shall be entitled to the full pay provided by law at the time of his retirement for the term of one year from the date of such retirement: *And provided further*, That officers of the Revenue Marine who have attained or hereafter may attain to the age of sixty-five years shall be retired, by reason of age, at three-fourths of the duty pay of their grade, and any officer who shall have served forty years in said service may, at his own request, be retired by the President, at three-fourths of the duty pay of his grade.

Sec. 3. That the vacancies created upon the active list by the retirement of officers of the Revenue Marine under the foregoing provision shall be filled by promotion as provided by law: *Provided*, That hereafter when an officer of the Revenue Marine Service is examined for promotion, and found qualified by passing the required standard of eligibility, he shall, when a vacancy occurs, be advanced to the next higher grade in the order of seniority of rank.

Sec. 4. That all acts or parts of acts conflicting with the foregoing are hereby repealed.

H. R. 4529, Mr. McAdoo. To provide gold medals for the survivors of the officers and crew of the United States sloop of war *Cumberland*.

H. R. 4531, Mr. Wm. E. Robinson. To allow Assistant Surgeon Edward P. Vollum, U. S. A., for property lost while on board the brig *Pawa*, bound for Fort Umpqua, Oregon Territory, when she was wrecked, on the twenty-first November, 1854.

H. R. 4535, Mr. Wadsworth. To pay to Guy V. Henry, a major of the 9th Cavalry, \$200 for clothing burned at Ogden, U. T., in May, 1881, while lying in the railroad freight-house at that place awaiting transit, without the fault or neglect of said Henry or the railroad company, and for the loss of which he has no remedy at law.

H. R. 4538, Mr. William F. Rogers. To further continue the act to authorize the settlement of the accounts of officers of the Army and Navy. Approved June 25, 1870, and continued by the act approved June 7, 1872, for one year from the date of the passage of this act.

H. R. 4630, Mr. Dibble. In relation to the examination of claims for Army supplies. That all claims examined by the Quartermaster-General and the Commissary-General of Subsistence under the provisions of sections numbered 300 A and B of the Revised Statutes, shall be forwarded to the accounting officers of the Treasury, in conformity to the requirements of section numbered 236 of the Revised Statutes: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be held to authorize the reopening of any claim which has been disposed of by the accounting officers in pursuance of law.

H. R. 4547, Mr. Nutting. To amend the record of Robert Walter, Hancock H. Haynie, and Benjamin S. Magar, late acting masters in the U. S. Navy, so that the time served by them as acting masters in the United States Navy, for pilotage duty, shall be counted as sea-time, with all the emoluments thereto belonging.

H. R. 4597, Mr. Charles O'Neill. To pay 1st Lieut. Augustus R. Egbert, 2d U. S. Infantry, for property lost or destroyed during transportation between Atlanta, Ga., and Spokane Falls, W. T., in the year 1877.

H. R. 4600, Mr. Barr. To credit Assistant Surgeon Calvin De Witt, U. S. A., with his service as an officer of volunteer troops, during the war of the Rebellion.

H. R. 4720, Mr. Oates. Whereas nineteen years have elapsed since the civil war terminated; and whereas all those who then engaged in hostilities against the United States are now, and have been ever since said war ceased, loyal to the Constitution and Government of the United States: *That* *therefore*, *Be it enacted*, *etc.*, That section 4716 of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby repealed: *Provided*, That this repeal shall not settle any pensioner who has been dropped from the rolls, on being restored to any pay prior to the approval of this act.

H. R. 4731, Mr. Oates. To limit the number of cadets to the Naval Academy and to regulate the appointment thereof. That after the passage of this act the President of the United States shall have the appointment to the Naval Academy

of five cadets at large, one of whom shall be a resident citizen of the District of Columbia when appointed; and no other appointment of any cadet shall be made by the President during his term of office, except to fill vacancies caused by death, removal, or resignation.

Sec. 2. That one cadet shall be appointed to said Naval Academy every four years from each Territory entitled to representation in Congress, and each State not having more than two representatives in Congress.

Sec. 3. That States entitled to more than two Representatives in Congress shall be entitled to one cadet for every three members, and one for every fraction over of two members, to be appointed every four years to said Naval Academy.

Sec. 4. That the appointment of said cadets shall be made from the Territories by the Delegate in Congress, and from the States by the governors thereof, who shall be notified by the Secretary of the Navy whenever a vacancy exists in said academy from any State or Territory.

H. R. 4736, Mr. Budd. *Provided* That that part of the act approved August 5, 1882, limiting the number of graduates of the Naval Academy to be retained in the service in each year shall not apply to those classes who were in the service at the time of the passage of said act; and those members of the class of 1881 who have been honorably discharged under the provisions of the act passed at that time may return to the service and take their places on the Naval Register in the same manner as if said part of such act had not been passed.

Sec. 2. That any cadet belonging to the classes of 1882 and 1883 who, on return from his two year's cruise, and on the successful passage of his final examination, and also any cadet belonging to the classes of 1884 and 1885 who successfully completed the four years' course at the Naval Academy, on tender of his resignation, if he so elects, shall be given a certificate of graduation, an honorable discharge, and one year's sea-pay, as now provided by law.

Sec. 3. That hereafter there shall be allowed at the Naval Academy five cadets at large and one from the District of Columbia, to be appointed by the President of the United States, and a number of cadets equal to one-half of the number of Representatives from the States and Territories, or as near thereto as may be; that two adjoining Congressional districts rating numerically, shall constitute a cadet district, and the Congressional district having the first vacancy shall be entitled to the first appointment the appointment to alternate thereafter.

Sec. 4. That the odd districts and States having but one Congressional district, the Territories, and the District of Columbia shall be entitled to an appointment once in every twelve years' instead of six years, as now provided by law; that in case of adjoining Congressional districts comprising a cadet district having vacancies at the same time, the district being first numerically shall have the first appointment, the appointments to alternate thereafter; that in case of a vacancy the said vacancy shall be filled from the Congressional district or Territory from which the original appointment was made.

Sec. 5. That all laws inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

H. R. 4744, Mr. Calkins. To authorize the Secretary of War to correct the rolls and restore to the Army the true name of any soldier who served during the recent war in any company or regiment under a fictitious name, when proper and sufficient proof shall be made thereof, under such regulations as the Secretary of War shall prescribe.

H. R. 4823, Mr. Beach. Provides that Secretary of War be, and is hereby authorized, in special cases, to cause enlisted men of the United States Army who, having been honorably discharged, re-enlisted, or may hereafter re-enlist, within three months hereafter, to be reported as of continuous service: *Provided*, That the circumstances shall be shown to have been such, or shall hereafter be such, that, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, the failure to re-enlist within the period of one month, as provided for by sections 1282 and 1284 of the Revised Statutes, was not due to causes directly the fault of the soldier; and this provision shall also extend in such other special cases where the prior and subsequent service of the soldier shall have been, or shall hereafter be, such as, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, entitles the soldier to this special favor: *And provided further*, That nothing in this act shall be construed as giving any arrears of pay in such cases.

H. R. 4836, Mr. James. Restoring Edward McDonald Reynolds to the rank of captain in the United States Marine Corps, and retiring him.

H. R. 4854, Mr. Arnot. To declare and regulate the rank of the officers of the line of the Army. That the names of officers to the several grades of colonel, lieutenant-colonel, major, captain, first lieutenant, and second lieutenant in the line of the Army of the United States be arranged in each grade in the order they would have occupied if promotion had been made through the several lines of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, as provided by law, and not regimentally, and that hereafter they shall rank accordingly.

Sec. 2. That whenever an officer is promoted from a lower to a higher grade he shall take rank in the next grade in the place he would have occupied if promotion had always been through the several lines of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, as required by law.

H. R. 4864, Mr. Scales. Enacting that so much of the act as approved March 3, 1875, as provides that so much of the appropriation between Jan. 1, 1861, and April 9, 1865, under the act of April 23, 1868, as would have been used for arms to be distributed to the several States, be, and is hereby repealed.

H. R. 4939, Mr. Goff. Provides that upon the passage of this act the assistant astronomers at the Naval Observatory be commissioned as assistant astronomers, with the same rank, pay, and provision of retirement as provided for assistant naval constructors in sections 1477, 1556, 1443, 1444, of the Revised Statutes, and that the previous service of these assistant astronomers of the Naval Observatory, whether continuous or otherwise, be taken into account in reckoning their longevity pay.

IN DEFENCE OF LIEUTENANT BERRY.

In a letter to the New York *Tribune*, Lieut. H. J. Hunt, U. S. N., says: "In an editorial, a few days since, which evidenced a desire on your part to do justice to all branches of the service, you mentioned the fact of Lieut. Berry's experience rendering valuable his services upon the proposed Greeley relief expedition. In connection with this the statement is made that a prejudice exists against him on account of his desertion of the *Rodgers* crew. There is no ground for such prejudice, but on the contrary. Wherein is the 'desertion'? Not until he had positively insured their safety did he leave his men. Do those who condemn his course advocate one in which, having lost his ship, he should have forgotten the purposes for which he was fitted out? Or do they say that he should have remained in safety, and sent a subordinate to prosecute the search which was intrusted to him? . . . Lieut. Berry knew that he had fully provided for his own party and that they were in a position to be speedily relieved. Was he now, at this point, with the first positive clue to the whereabouts of those he was sent to succor, to turn his back upon them, and return just in time to march on board ship with his men? Had he done so his action might have been justly styled 'desertion.' But he did not. He sent Jack full information and orders to Waring, fitted out fresh dog teams, and searched 400 miles more of coast line. He would have followed this up with as much more as was required, but, having made communication with Melville, that officer's excellent work precluded the necessity for further search, and he returned to the United States long after his crew had reached their homes. One other fact should be remembered by the prejudiced: that this search of 1,200 miles, prosecuted on his own resources and after the loss of his ship, resulted in the actual discovery, by Berry himself,

of the fate of all three ships for which he sought—the *Jeanette*, the *Vigilant*, and the *Mount Washington*. There should be no prejudice against a man who has shown his ability to meet the greatest misfortune that can overtake a relief expedition."

To this the *Tribune* replies: "The sole point at issue is this: Ought the commanding officer to have made the journey himself? He was captain of the ship, and responsible for the safety of his men. Ought he to have left the crew after the burning of the ship? Ought he not to have remained with them, until they were rescued, and have sent two of his subordinates across the country? That he had not provided absolutely for the safety of his men is proved by three circumstances: (1) Master Putnam lost his way during a sledging journey, and his companions were unable to rescue him; (2) a turbulent chief made a raid upon the provisions of the crew two months after the burning of the vessel, a critical situation followed, and a collision with the marauding party was avoided only with great difficulty; (3) several of the officers and men were attacked with scurvy during the wintering. We have no disposition to judge Lieut. Berry harshly, and readily concede that in abandoning his men he accepted a post of danger. Nevertheless, his conduct is open to criticism."

VOLUNTEER PENSIONS AND RETIRED PAY.

MR. PLUMB presented in the Senate on Monday the following petition from commissioned officers of volunteers:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The petition of the undersigned, late commissioned officers of volunteers, and now on the pension rolls for wounds and disabilities received in the military service of the United States, respectfully represents that there are now pending in Congress two bills (S. 1306 and H. R. 3485) which propose to fix the rate of pension hereafter to be granted to all commissioned officers at one-half of the pay of the rank held by such officers at the time the disability was received on account of which he was pensioned. We ask your careful consideration and favorable action on said bills, and present what we believe are just and valid reasons why such legislation should be had.

The great and unfair difference now existing between the pay of officers of the Army on the retired list and the pensions granted to commissioned officers of volunteers is shown by the following table:

Pay of Commissioned Officers on the Retired-List of the Army.

	Per Month.
A major-general	\$468 75
A brigadier-general	343 75
A colonel	281 25
A lieutenant-colonel	250 00
A major	218 75
A captain	175 00
A first lieutenant	140 00
A second lieutenant	131 2

N. B.—In addition to the above pay, officers on the retired-list are allowed to purchase from the commissary and quartermaster's departments all supplies and fuel, etc., required for the use of themselves and their families at rates from 10 to 33 per cent. less than the same can be purchased in open market by private citizens.

Rate of Pension to Commissioned Officers of Volunteers.

	Per Month.
For a lieutenant-colonel and all of higher rank	\$30 00
For a major	25 00
For a captain	20 00
For a first lieutenant	17 00
For a second lieutenant	15 00

N. B.—These rates are for total disability.

On January 1, 1883, there were 415 officers on the retired list of the Army. Of this number 117 were graduates of the Military Academy; the other 298 came from the Army and from the volunteer service, and were in no respect, as your petitioners believe, more worthy of consideration than themselves. We had been wounded in the same battles, disabled in the same campaigns; only our comrades now on the retired-list had the good fortune, or the "influence," at the close of the civil war to be appointed in the Regular Army, and subsequently retired, while we, your petitioners, after frequent examinations by boards of surgeons, and our disabilities graded, are now on the pension-rolls receiving a rate of pension out of all proportion to the pay enjoyed by retired officers, and which as a mean of livelihood is entirely inadequate. The rate of pension granted to an enlisted man is, for total disability (not specific), \$8 per month, being one half of his pay while in active service. The rate of pay for officers on the retired-list is three-quarters of the full pay of their rank, and the disabilities of officers on the retired-list are not graded, as on the pension-rolls, but all receive alike the full three-quarters pay of their rank, without regard to the degree of disability. Your petitioners are unable to see any reason for the continuance of this most unjust discrimination, and we pray that it may be corrected by the passage of the bills above referred to. And your petitioners will ever pray.

MILITARY ORDER LOYAL LEGION.

The meeting of the Commandery of the District of Columbia Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, which took place at the Arlington Hotel, Washington, on Wednesday evening last, was the largest ever held at this Commandery. The meeting was called to order at 8 o'clock by Gen. Jos. H. Hawley, Commander. The first business of the meeting was the balloting for the new members of the first class. The following were elected Companions of the 1st class: Commodore J. C. F. Dekrant, U. S. N. 1st Lieut. J. B. Thompson, U. S. Vols. Evt. Brig. Gen. E. A. Carman, U. S. Vols.; Bvt. Brig. Gen. W. Clark, U. S. Vols. 2d class, Mr. Jos. B. Burnside. There were present nearly one hundred and fifty members and invited guests. The banquet was served in the dining hall of the hotel, and there was a regular good time. Gen. Hawley was in his happiest mood, and the

Quartette Club gave some of the choicest music. Speeches were made by Gen. Sheridan, Gen. Van Vliet, Governor Curtin, Dr. Brown of the Navy, Gen. Clay, Senator Manderson and several others. After the banquet Mr. MacDonald, of the Boston Ideal Troupe, who was a guest of the Hotel, sang a few beautiful pieces from his repertoire, for which he was cheered and applauded in a manner which could not have failed to gratify him immensely. The Commandery of the District of Columbia bids fair to be soon the largest in the United States.

TARGET PRACTICE IN THE ARMY.

FIGURE OF MERIT FOR 1883.

The following tables give the figure of merit and order of regiments and posts in the United States for the target year ending Sept. 30, 1883:

No.	Figure of Merit.	No.	Figure of Merit.
8. Engineer Battalion.....	52.32	19. 4th.....	34.49
Cavalry Regiments.....		13. 5th.....	44.97
34. 1st.....	26.95	32. 6th.....	29.07
15. 2d.....	39.02	7. 7th.....	54.52
40. 3d.....	19.06	20. 8th.....	34.35
39. 4th.....	20.53	11. 9th.....	47.39
33. 5th.....	28.22	23. 10th.....	32.32
38. 6th.....	21.43	2. 11th.....	72.40
17. 7th.....	37.95	18. 12th.....	36.72
35. 8th.....	29.88	14. 13th.....	44.23
35. 9th.....	24.39	12. 14th.....	45.16
41. 10th.....	18.79	16. 15th.....	38.76
Artillery Regiments.....		21. 16th.....	34.04
6. 1st.....	56.62	5. 17th.....	57.72
36. 2d.....	23.80	3. 18th.....	61.43
26. 3d.....	31.12	22. 19th.....	39.09
29. 4th.....	29.50	24. 20th.....	32.27
28. 5th.....	29.98	10. 21st.....	51.21
Infantry Regiments.....		31. 22d.....	29.41
25. 1st.....	31.60	27. 23d.....	30.39
37. 2d.....	23.34	1. 24th.....	79.52
4. 3d.....	61.04	9. 25th.....	51.75

The highest regiment of cavalry is the 2d Cavalry; the lowest, the 10th Cavalry. The highest regiment of artillery is the 1st Artillery; lowest, the 2d Artillery. Highest regiment of infantry, 24th Infantry; lowest, 2d Infantry. Highest troop of cavalry, 1. 8th Cavalry; lowest, E. 4th Cavalry. Highest battery of artillery, H. 1st Artillery; lowest, I. 1st Artillery. Highest company of infantry, D. 24th Infantry; lowest, I. 10th Infantry.

DEPARTMENTS.

	Figure of Merit.	Marksmen.
Dakota.....	50.03	1,655
California.....	47.49	304
Platte.....	37.03	654
Arizona.....	36.04	221
Missouri.....	34.88	909
Columbia.....	31.18	253
East.....	28.89	466
Texas.....	28.83	285

Marksmen to strength of command: Dakota, 35 in every 100 men; Platte, 22; Missouri, 20; East, 19; Columbia, 16; Arizona, 12; Texas, 11.

POSTS.

	Figure of Merit.		Figure of Merit.
Fort Sisseton.....	95.70	Fort Spokane.....	33.87
" Bennett.....	91.60	" Sidney.....	33.62
" Sill.....	91.55	" Gibson.....	33.20
" Sully.....	84.83	" Omaha.....	32.76
Alcatraz.....	82.18	Madison Barracks.....	32.54
Fort Shaw.....	71.64	Fort Bridger.....	32.30
" Scott.....	70.77	" Steele.....	32.20
" Brown.....	67.90	" Klamath.....	30.91
" Hale.....	66.63	" Leavenworth.....	30.14
" Laramie.....	65.95	Angel Island.....	30.07
" Elliott.....	65.39	Fort Hays.....	29.88
" McGuire.....	63.80	" Washakie.....	29.82
" Preble.....	63.40	" Benicia.....	29.57
" Townsend.....	61.65	" Gaston.....	29.51
" Mission.....	60.30	Little Rock Barracks.....	29.97
" Garland.....	59.52	Fort Huachuca.....	28.59
" Mojave.....	58.14	" Clark.....	28.00
" Poplar River.....	58.51	" Bidwell.....	27.86
" Uncompaghe.....	57.96	" Bowie.....	27.71
Presidio.....	57.06	" Lowell.....	27.57
Mt. Vernon Barracks.....	56.29	San Diego Barracks.....	27.27
Fort Halleck.....	54.55	Fort Lyon.....	27.11
Vanconver Barracks.....	53.84	" Niobrara.....	25.72
Fort Totten.....	52.76	Bois d'Arc Barracks.....	25.58
Willett's Point.....	52.32	Fort Apache.....	25.44
Fort Mason.....	51.63	" Mackanae.....	25.29
" Wayne.....	50.31	" Monroe.....	23.94
" Assiniboine.....	50.02	" Porter.....	23.83
" Russell.....	48.98	" Warren.....	23.69
Plattsburg Barracks.....	47.80	" Stockton.....	23.40
Fort Custer.....	46.37	" Lewis.....	22.07
" Buford.....	46.33	" Riley.....	21.87
" Verde.....	46.33	San Antonio.....	20.46
" Snelling.....	45.17	Fort Adams.....	20.23
Barrancas Barracks.....	45.10	" Reno.....	20.00
Fort Pembina.....	44.71	" McHenry.....	19.95
" Niagara.....	41.40	Jackson Barracks.....	19.59
" Randall.....	41.27	" Columbus.....	19.50
" Meade.....	40.20	" Carey.....	19.42
" McKinney.....	40.19	" Grant.....	19.22
" Keogh.....	40.09	" Walls.....	19.21
" Ellis.....	40.06	Washington Barracks.....	18.95
" Robinson.....	39.90	Fort Canby.....	18.44
" Selden.....	39.76	" Schuyler.....	18.14
" Lincoln.....	39.46	" Davis.....	17.20
" Trumbull.....	39.43	" Thomas.....	16.11
" Yates.....	39.23	" Brady.....	15.86
" Bliss.....	39.09	" Cent D'Alene.....	15.67
" Wingate.....	37.67	" McDowell.....	15.61
" Supply.....	37.32	" Craig.....	14.91
" McDermott.....	37.17	" Thornburgh.....	14.34
" Stanton.....	36.20	Whipple Barrack.....	14.02
" Hamilton.....	35.86	Fort Lapwai.....	13.43
" Cummings.....	35.51	" Bayard.....	13.15
" Douglas.....	34.77	St. Francis Barracks.....	10.37
" Union.....	33.93	Fort Stevens.....	7.60

The following are the different companies, troops, and batteries having over 70 for a figure of merit in target practice for the last year, viz.: Engineer Battalion—Co. E, Capt. Stanton, 73.84; 2d Cavalry—Troop A, Capt. Clark, 71.27; 8th Cavalry—Troop I, Capt. Hennies, 67.19; 9th Cavalry, Dillenbach, 79.28; Co. Capt. McGree, 77.71; D. Capt. Ward, 84.84; H. Capt. Haskin, 88.37; 3d Infantry—Co. A, Capt. Moale, 78.61; F. Capt. Page, 88.75; G. Capt. Kent, 87.63; H. Capt. Hobart, 79.42; 5th Infantry—Co. K, Capt. Baldwin, 88.55; 7th Infantry—Co. A, Capt. Coolidge, 94.14; C. Capt. Benham, 76.00; H. Capt. Freeman, 88.83; 9th Infantry—Co. K, Capt. Hay, 92.24; 11th Infantry—Co. A, Capt. Quinn, 86.33; D. Capt. Beach, 78.64; E. Capt. Wikoff, 91.08; I.

Capt. Sage, 91.63; K. Capt. Jackson, 88.09; 14th Infantry—Co. D, Capt. Western, 76.81; 17th Infantry—Co. F, Capt. Bennett, 95.10; I. Capt. Roberts, 96.12; 18th Infantry—Co. B, Capt. Durham, 77.92; E. Capt. Kline, 78.06; K. Capt. Paul, 78.72; 21st Infantry—Co. E, Capt. Miles, 84.60; 24th Infantry—Co. B, Capt. Nixon, 73.46; C. Capt. Custer, 85.26; D. Capt. Thompson, 100.00; E. Capt. Clous, 93.16; F. Capt. Hood, 74.09; H. Capt. Gilmore, 76.90; I. Capt. Markley, 100.00; K. Capt. Morgan, 92.94; 25th Infantry—Co. E, Capt. Schooley, 83.47; K. Capt. Gray, 71.35.

We add a list of marksmen in the Army whose average qualifying scores for the target year ending Sept. 30, 1883, are 92 per cent. or over. The list includes 12 officers, 13 non-commissioned officers, and 5 privates:

Names and Rank.	200 yds.	300 yds.	400 yds.	Av. pr. ct.
1. Pvt. Eskote, A. 3d Art.....	94	92	100	95.33
2. Lt. Parrello, B. 5th Inf.....	96	90	100	95.33
3. Sergt. Dougherty, M. 1st Cav.....	96	92	98	95.33
4. 1st Sgt. Hickey, D. 21st Inf.....	96	96	94	95.33
5. 1st Sgt. Murphy, I. 1st Cav.....	94	92	98	94.67
6. Lt. Brant, K. 1st Inf.....	92	92	98	94.
7. Capt. Hunt, Ord. Dept.....	92	94	96	94.
8. Capt. Carr, I. 1st Cav.....	96	90	96	94.
9. Lt. Anderson, M. 4th Art.....	96	92	94	94.
10. Lt. Fremont, H. 3d Inf.....	92	88	100	93.33
11. Lt. Van Vliet, H. 10th Inf.....	94	88	93	94.33
12. Pvt. Goss, B. 21st Inf.....	96	94	92	93.33
13. 1st Sgt. Kinswater, B. 21st Inf.....	96	96	88	93.33
14. Pvt. Rehm, K. 2d Art.....	92	90	96	92.67
15. Sgt. Bentley, F. 17th Inf.....	94	88	96	91.67
16. Capt. Haskin, H. 1st Art.....	92	94	92	92.67
17. Chl. Musco, Watts, Band, 7th Inf.....	92	94	92	92.67
18. Lt. Reade, H. 3d Inf.....	96	90	92	92.67
19. Sgt. Merriam, Med. Dept.....	94	94	90	92.67
20. Pvt. O'Keefe, B. 21st Inf.....	96	96	86	92.67
21. Pvt. Matteson, C. 1st Art.....	92	88	96	92.
22. Corp. Hopkins, H. 1st Art.....	92	88	96	92.
23. 1st Sgt. Boughton, B. 1st Art.....	92	90	94	92.
24. Sgt. Muller, M. 1st Art.....	92	90	94	92.
25. 1st Sgt. Ryan, K. 12th Inf.....	94	90	92	92.
26. Sgt. Raymond, M. 1st Cav.....	94	90	92	92.
27. Lt. Chynoweth, I. 17th Inf.....	90	96	90	92.
28. 1st Sgt. Bracken, M. 1st Art.....	94	92	90	92.
29. Corp. Gordon, K. 9th Inf.....	96	90	90	92.
30. Capt. Jocelyn, B. 21st Inf.....	96	92	88	92.

FINDINGS OF THE PROTEUS COURT OF INQUIRY.

The report of the Proteus Court of Inquiry was transmitted to the Senate Feb. 13. It embodies an elaborate digest of the testimony taken by the court. The findings of the court are summarized in their conclusions as follows:

The court has already pronounced the opinion that Lieut. Garlington, after the sinking of the Proteus, erred in not waiting longer at Pandora Harbor with the object of obtaining from the Yantic supplies with which to make a depot for a winter station at Life-boat Point or Littleton Island, the objective point of the retreat, which Lieut. Greely had been ordered to begin at Lady Franklin Bay not later than the 1st of September, 1883. Lieut. Garlington's error in this respect is regarded as one of judgment, committed in the exercise of a difficult and unusual discretion, for which, in the opinion of the court, he should not be held to further accountability. It is also due to him to say that, in the general conduct of the expedition prior to the loss of the ship, he displayed zeal, energy and efficiency, as well as afterward successfully conducting his command through a long, perilous, and laborious retreat in boats to a place of safety.

While awarding credit to Gen. Hazen, the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, for the best intentions in devising measures for the rescue of the command of Lieut. Greely and for an earnest desire—which it was impossible that he should not have entertained—to restore those adventurous men to their country and homes after two years' exile from the world of humanity; and while further, as has already been said, commending the study and care of Gen. Hazen and of his assistants in the Signal Office in 1883 in the preparation of the outfit and material of the expedition of that year and the selection of its personnel, the court is of opinion that in many particulars, and in some of the gravest moments, he failed in an adequate comprehension of the necessities of the case and of the measures and means essential to meet them. The following grave errors and omissions are noted in his action:

I. In not submitting in the fall of 1882 to the Secretary of War, for the action of Congress, a sufficient plan with corresponding estimates for the organization and equipment of a complete and efficient relief expedition to be conveyed in two vessels fitted for ice navigation, whereby the chances of failure would have been greatly diminished.

II. In objecting strongly in the fall of 1882 to proposed endeavors by the War Department to obtain from the Navy the men for the relief party of 1883.

III. In sending an independent command upon a most perilous and responsible, as well as distant, expedition, with only one commissioned officer.

IV. In informing Lieut. Garlington in his instructions that Lieut. Greely's supplies would be exhausted in the fall of 1883, whereas means of correct knowledge were within ready reach in the Signal Office to show that Lieut. Greely's command was fully provisioned for more than three years from the summer of 1881, the natural effect of this being to urge Lieut. Garlington to undue impatience and haste to reach Lady Franklin Bay with all the stores entrusted to his charge, and to obscure from his mental vision, after the ship and cargo had gone down, the desirability of advancing as far as possible northward to give notice of the disaster, in order that Lieut. Greely, before coming down too far to go back, might, being so warned, retire again to his well-provided station at Lady Franklin Bay.

V. His persistent rejection of the wisest measure that it remained possible for him to adopt in the spring of 1883, and which was repeatedly urged upon his consideration, to wit, the making, on the northward voyage of the relief ship, of a large depot for a winter at or near Littleton Island (the objective point of the projected retreat of Lieut. Greely), whereby the ship would have been lightened of stores which it was in no wise necessary to carry to Lady Franklin Bay or to expose to the dangers of Smith Sound, and whereby the subsequent loss of the vessel would have been of comparatively trivial consequence. The explanations offered by the Chief Signal Officer of his decision not to make a depot, that it would be a deviation from Lieut. Greely's own plan of relief, are, as has already been shown, utterly untenable and illogical. Concert of action between the retreating and the relieving parties was undoubtedly important, but this being secured by compliance with all Lieut. Greely's requests as to the location of depots or otherwise, how could any intelligent deference to those requests, either in their spirit or letter, forbid that further precautions and measures should be devised and taken with a view to his rescue? This was plainly the case in the proposed unloading at or near Littleton Island on the way northward. Lieut. Greely asked to have a winter station made for him near that place. If one-half or two-thirds of the stores of the expedition had been

unloaded at the entrance of Smith Sound there would have been secured a vastly greater approach to certainty of the full attainment of Lieut. Greely's wishes and urgent needs than when the whole cargo was subjected to the hazards of the heavy ice pack habitually present in that water. And while a delay of a few days would have involved no appreciable disadvantage from retarding the voyage to Lady Franklin Bay, which was not essential, the omission of this step, which was essential, threatened serious danger to the lives of Lieut. Greely and his command. The further reason that Gen. Hazen assigns for his action—that the naval tender would be itself a depot—was, as has already been shown, wholly fallacious and unfounded.

VI. In failing to perceive a necessity for a second vessel until nearly the middle of May, 1883, or to advise the Navy Department of what such tender was wanted to do, or how far it was wanted to go, until a fortnight later, whereas a definite and explicit request ought to have been made immediately after the enactment of the appropriation which authorized the expedition, two months sooner, and that much longer notice given to enable a more complete fitting of a ship for the purpose.

VII. The omission of proper directions and measures for stowing the cargo of the Proteus, in order that the most important material for the purposes of the expedition should be readily accessible in an emergency, owing to which omission, it was unknown to either Lieut. Garlington or the master of the ship, where the arms and ammunition provided for the party were stowed, and upon the loss of the ship the command was left with only the few arms and comparatively small amount of powder and shot that had been kept in their personal possession. It was of vital importance that the cargo should be so stowed that its most essential contents would be easily accessible and removable in an emergency. The instructions to Lieut. Garlington were insufficient, while he was denied permission to proceed in advance to St. Johns to attend to the matter, which was committed to the sole care of a non-commissioned officer, who wholly failed to attend to it, not even going to St. Johns for that purpose. If a sufficient quantity of arms and ammunition had been saved, a cache of them might have been made for the use of Lieut. Greely, the amount of whose supply of this indispensable material has not been made known to the court, and however ample it may have been originally, by this time may be entirely exhausted.

VIII. The lax, negligent, and defective method of keeping the records of public business and conducting the correspondence in the Signal Office, as illustrated by the action of the Chief Signal Officer, in regard to the so-called supplementary instruction or order to Lieut. Garlington, which, in fact, was no order at all. Gen. Hazen's attention was called to a document in the nature of an order, placed by one of his staff with the orders to Lieut. Garlington, in that officer's hands, without, as the Chief Signal Officer testifies, his express or conscious authority. He contented himself with telling the Lieutenant that the paper was no part of his orders, without calling to account the officer who had thus presumed (from his point of view) to give an order, or even a suggestion, in conflict with the terms of the written orders signed by himself, the Chief Signal Officer. He certainly ought to have withdrawn a paper containing the contradictory direction or suggestion to the acting Adjutant of the office, with orders to cancel it, and if on record to expunge the same; unless, indeed, he was prepared to make it an order, and embody it in the instructions over his own signature. On the contrary, he takes none of these steps, but wholly omits to acquaint his acting Adjutant with his conversation with, and last oral instructions to, Lieut. Garlington, and leave that Adjutant under the impression that the memorandum—which he remembers that he had sent to the desk of the Chief Signal officer with the instructions for the expedition, and with them received back, without comment, for transmission to Lieutenant Garlington, was a supplementary order or a postscript to the instructions of that officer; from which course of action it resulted that the memorandum was recorded as an inclosure to Lieutenant Garlington's instructions, and afterwards published to the country as an indication that he had been guilty of disobedience of orders in failing to make a depot at or near Littleton Island on his voyage northward. If any further illustration were needed of this mischievous manner of conducting official business, it would be apparent in the reflection that if a fatal accident had befallen the Chief Signal Officer during Lieut. Garlington's absence the knowledge of the last interview between those two would have been consigned to the survivor, whose testimony in repelling a charge of violation of his orders, as that of a man deeply interested, would have had to be judged in the light of Lieut. Garlington's knowledge only, of having sent to the Chief Signal Officer, and received back again for transmissions to Lieut. Garlington, the memorandum in question. That it was not signed or mentioned in the body of the instructions over Gen. Hazen's signature, might have been regarded as a matter of form rather than of substance. Touching this memorandum itself, the court is of opinion that neither was it an order nor did it properly carry any force as a suggestion to the commander of the expedition, who was instructed to strictly conform to the letter of Lieut. Greely's requests. Gen. Hazen had rejected the idea embodied in the memorandum as in conflict with those requests, and so informed Lieut. Garlington, stating that they were a law to him, the Chief Signal Officer. If he had desired or intended that Lieut. Garlington, if delayed near Littleton Island on the voyage northward should make the depot, he could easily have embodied in the orders a proviso to that effect, instead of obscuring such an idea under a vague intimation of the discretion reposed in a distant commander, to be called into exercise according to these acts as they should develop themselves. This discretion however, can have no application to Lieut. Garlington's subsequent action, as the very condition of facts that this officer indicated as his objection to stopping at Littleton Island to unload was found there in the clear and unobstructed passage northward.

IX. Following the custom when officers of the different services, with independent commands are ordered to cooperate in a single expedition, the Chief Signal Officer should have taken care to have Lieut. Garlington furnished with a copy of the instructions of the Navy Department to the commander of the Yantic.

In regard to Commander Wildes, U. S. Navy, the Court finds that he made a mistake in not leaving a portion of the Yantic's provisions at Littleton Island for Greely, having a copy of Garlington's orders, and knowing the object of the expedition. In conclusion, the report says:

While the foregoing grave errors and omissions are regarded as having either directly led or largely contributed to the abortive issue of the expedition, yet as they are all deemed to have been due to the lack of a wise provision and sound judgment in the exercise of a wide administrative discretion, and unattended by any willful neglect or intentional dereliction of duty, the court, after mature deliberation, is of opinion that no further proceedings before a general Court-martial are called for.

S. V. BENNET, President of the Court.

HENRY GOODFELLOW, Judge-Advocate, Recorder of the Court.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW STEEL VESSELS.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Senate Naval Committee was held on Monday last, when Mr. Hale's bill (S. 698) authorizing the construction of additional steel vessels for the Navy was discussed, and finally agreed upon. The only amendment made to the bill was the insertion of a proviso that one of the light gunboats should be built on plans and specifications to be furnished by the Admiral of the Navy. The following is the full text of the bill as decided upon:

That the President is hereby authorized to direct the construction of seven steel vessels for the Navy of the United States, as recommended in the report of the Naval Advisory Board, dated October 25, 1883, and in the annual report of the Secretary of the Navy of December 1, 1883, as follows: One cruiser of 4,500 tons displacement, one cruiser of 3,000 tons, one despatch vessel of 1,500 tons, two heavily-armed gunboats of 1,800 tons each, one light gunboat of 750 tons, and one gunboat not to exceed 900 tons, to be built on plans and specifications to be furnished by the Admiral of the Navy, and under his supervision and directions, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Navy.

Sec. 2. That the President is further authorized to direct the construction of one steel ram, as recommended by the first Naval Advisory Board, November 7, 1881; of one cruising torpedo-boat, advocated by the same Board and by the present Advisory Board in its memorandum of November 21, 1882; and of two of the harbor torpedo-boats recommended by said first Board, and in the report from the Bureau of Ordnance of November 1, 1883, all of which are recommended in the annual report of the Secretary of the Navy.

The bill was reported to the Senate on Tuesday. Mr. Hale, in presenting it, said he regarded it as one of the important matters of the session, and notified the Senate that he would call it up for the action of the Senate at an early day. The following is the report of the committee on the bill:

"The committee recommend the passage of the bill with the accompanying amendment. In considering this bill, the committee had before it the recommendations contained in the annual message of the President, in the annual report of the Navy Department of December 1, 1883, and in the report of the Naval Advisory Board in reference to the construction of additional vessels, dated Oct. 25, 1883, together with other reports and memoranda of the same Board, and of the first Naval Advisory Board. Appropriate extracts are contained in appendices.

"In addition to the recommendations made in the above named reports, the committee deemed it advisable to ascertain with all possible fullness the precise views of the Navy Department, and of various experts upon the requirements of the proposed vessels, and especially upon the plans adopted by the Advisory Board for the vessels now under construction; and to that end it called and received many oral and written statements from the Secretary of the Navy, the Admiral of the Navy, the members of the Advisory Board, the principal chiefs of bureaus, and other officers.

"The inquiry developed some difference of opinion upon certain special points connected with the new cruisers, such as the requisite amount of sail power, the expediency of sheathing the bottom, the beam engines and the furnaces of the *Chicago*, and the open forecastle and poop deck in the *Boston* and *Atlanta*, due to the position of the deck-house enclosing the battery. The testimony taken by the committee upon these and other points is contained in appendix.

"While it may be worthy of consideration whether it is desirable to follow the plans adopted for the vessels now under construction in all minute details, about which a diversity of opinion might reasonably be expected to exist among experts, nothing has appeared to show that the confidence of the Navy Department and of the Advisory Board in the success of these vessels is misplaced. In executing the duties devolved upon it by the acts of Aug. 5, 1883, and March 3, 1883, the Advisory Board appears to have proceeded with care and judgment, in the direction marked out by the first Advisory Board, and the committee are of the opinion that to it may be entrusted the task of designing and constructing the additional vessels now recommended. The committee are strongly impressed with the correctness of the conclusions of the Naval Advisory Board as shown in their report of Oct. 25, 1883.

"The paper presented as Appendix V shows the age and condition of the vessels composing the American Navy of to day; and the further document, marked VI, is a statement of the original cost of the different vessels, together with the repairs that, from time to time, have been put upon their hulls and machinery. An examination of these papers cannot fail to show that no time should be lost in building new ships, to prevent the United States being found, at an early day, practically without a navy. These old ships have been valuable in the past, but the most of them have run out their natural lives, and they represent atypeand models that have been mainly abandoned by the naval Powers of the world; and the Committee do not believe that a single year should pass without a material addition to the Navy of new ships, built after the fashion of the best approved, modern naval construction. In an economical point of view much money will be saved in the end by this policy. The table in Appendix VI, show the impossibility of maintaining a wooden fleet without annual costly repairs. Nearly all of this will be saved on a fleet of steel ships; and the committee believe that a policy which expends money, in adding new and enduring ships to the Navy, is far preferable to that which expends it in keeping in service old and rapidly decaying wooden vessels.

"The committee specially calls attention to the report concerning the views of naval officers and other experts, as found in Appendix VII, which embraces the testimony taken and printed for the use of the Committee up to this date. Other testimony and views that have been called for will be printed as received for the use of Congress."

The Hydrographic Office has recently issued a "Supplement to Pilot Chart of the North Atlantic for February," giving position and detail of floating wrecks. The supplement was prepared by Commander J. B. Bartlett, U. S. N., Hydrographer.

THE STATE TROOPS.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF NEW YORK.

Inspector General Briggs has made two reports, one relating to the New York State camp, and the other to the general condition of the Guard, as a result of the annual inspections. The camp report is general, making no comparisons between organizations, and presenting very little that has not already been discussed in the JOURNAL. The figure of merit system introduced by General Oliver is discontinued; doubtless to the satisfaction of those organizations whose consciences tell them that the records made by them are not what they should be, while, on the other hand, those who think that they have acquitted themselves with credit, are anxious to know their standing, and regret that the practice of last year is not repeated. We question the wisdom of abolishing the grading of the Guard according to merit. It was dreaded only by the negligent and inefficient, while amongst the deserving organizations it created a spirit of rivalry and competition, the beneficial results of which were plainly apparent, especially in this year's work at the camp. Among the recommendations contained in the camp report we notice the following: The camp to be commanded by a brigadier general, regimental commanders to be assisted by detailed instructors, a theoretical school for instruction of officers to be established in a large tent set aside for the purpose, it being a source of regret that there should be so many careless, indifferent and incompetent officers in the service who do not know how, or are unwilling to study, but depend in a measure upon their superiors during drill for the necessary instruction. By the method proposed such officers would be compelled to "book up" or display their ignorance. Failing to fill the requirements of their assumed positions, they could more readily be disposed of. Our recommendation to furnish a sufficient number of extra tents for instruction of troops in pitching and striking camp is reproduced, and the shifting of the camp to the North of the road in order to obtain additional drill space is recommended, as well as the reduction of company fronts at battalion drills, in order to obtain more men for other duties. The instruction of officers and guides, which is the principal object of these drills, can readily be accomplished with skeleton or single rank companies. Street riot duty should be taught according to General Brownell's system. Rifle practice should be completed at home as heretofore, thus enabling the organizations to devote the full time while in camp to other prescribed duty.

We now pass to the main report, and give the following extracts from the reports of the different regiments made at the time of the annual inspections. Of the Seventh Regiment he says:

Seventh Regiment.—Discipline, military appearance and steadiness, excellent. During its tour of duty at the State Camp, June 23 to 30th, the regiment acquitted itself most creditably. The routine of duty prescribed by the commandant was the most thorough of all the organizations serving in camp during the present year. Steady progress was made in all branches of instruction, particularly in guard duty, skirmishing and military courtesy. Great attention was paid to the instruction of sentinels, and great care is taken in all the companies in the setting up and general instruction of recruits. The inspection of quarters was very satisfactory, the tents were well cared for, and neatly and uniformly arranged within. The police duty, from first to last, was excellently performed. The men responded willingly and cheerfully, and seemed to take great pride in the cleanliness of the camp.

Eighth Regiment.—Arms not properly cared for, too oily in the breech, many of the pieces rusty, five pieces out of order, and quite a number too heavy in the pull. The regimental armorer is either incompetent or negligent, and should be replaced by a better man. Accoutrements and equipments in good condition. Adjustment very fair. Too many loose belts. Condition of brasses, fair. A number of dirty plates. Military appearance and ceremonies very good. Discipline, steadiness and school of the battalion, good. Manual, very fair. Loading and firing, fair. Guard duty, skirmishing and military courtesy made a part of the instruction of this command. The regiment is in a better condition to improve than it has been in for a long time past. It is composed of a good class of men, and will, no doubt, fill up its ranks more rapidly as soon as a site is secured for the new armory.

Ninth Regiment.—Arms in poor condition; very many foul and rusty pieces. A great many men had little or no knowledge of the care of the rifle. A large number of loose belts and dirty brasses. At the time the present Colonel assumed command, early in 1882 (or about one year ago), the regiment was in an unsettled and demoralized condition, and has been in a transition state ever since. During the past year the companies have lost 178 of their number and gained 184, and nine officers have been commissioned to their present positions. This command entered the State Camp July 14, with 118 recruits in the ranks that had enlisted within the six months previous, a great many of this number having been recruited within a few days prior to the departure of the regiment for the camp. A desire seems to have been manifested upon the part of the officers to increase the numbers of their commands, without consulting their soldierly qualifications, character, or standing, and the result has proved a detriment to the previous good record of the *personnel* of this once famous regiment, while the discipline and drill of the entire command has been very much impaired thereby. Military courtesy, fair. Guard duty. Owing to the great number of recruits, the smallness of the Guard, and the want of proper instruction—through the inexperience of a portion of the officers—but slight improvement was made.

Tenth Battalion.—No improvement can be noted in discipline, etc., during the past year. As a battalion the command has been somewhat demoralized, never having had a permanent commander until the recent election of the present commandant, and it is but just that he should have a fair opportunity to reorganize discipline and drill his command before being subjected to criticism.

Eleventh Regiment.—This regiment is composed principally of German mechanics and workmen, and has recruited a large number since last muster. The large percentage of absentees would indicate a great laxity of discipline throughout the command. The review was well conducted by the Lieutenant-Colonel, but the men were unsteady and the salutes of the officers were poorly rendered. The ceremony of inspection was but fairly understood by the line officers. School of battalion, manual, guard duty and military courtesy, fair. The great need of this command is the want of an efficient and capable corps of company officers, good instructors and disciplinarians.

Twelfth Regiment.—Ceremonies of inspection and muster were well conducted. Inspection of arms fair. An old reliable regiment. This drill season has been opened by the introduction of a thorough system of instruction for recruits in the school of the soldier. Owing to the want of space, the review preceding the inspection was waived. Ceremonies of inspection and muster were well conducted, the men manifesting a fair degree of proficiency in the inspection of arms. This regiment is one of the old reliable commands of the Service, and was reported to have shown great improvements while encamped at Peekskill in 1882. Since the issue of the new uniforms, a better feeling has existed and the command starts in upon the present drill season with renewed activity, and much encouraged with the prospects of rapidly filling up its ranks with material that will be a credit to the Service.

Thirteenth Regiment.—The command entered Camp June 30th with 99 recruits in the ranks who had had but little if any instruction in the school of the soldier. The routine duties prescribed were very thorough, but unfortunately could not be fully carried out during the week's tour of duty, owing to the excessive heat prevailing—the hottest of the season. Officers and men were attentive and anxious to improve their time. Commendable progress was made in the ceremonies school of the soldier and

company and skirmishing and military courtesy. While much attention is paid to the instruction of recruits in the larger companies the tendency is to push the recruits ahead too rapidly in the weaker ones.

Fourteenth Regiment.—This regiment shows a commendable gain independent of the loss of the band in numbers; still the large number absent would seem to indicate that many are yet carried on the rolls of companies that are of little or no benefit to the command. In most of the companies there has been in the past a want of interest on the part of officers and men, in their squad and company drills, which it is to be hoped will be corrected this drill season. Company E, Captain Joseph B. K. Barlow, is deserving of special and honorable mention, having inspected and mustered its entire strength (100 per cent.) for the past two years.

Fifteenth Regiment.—Discipline, military appearance, steadiness, excellent. Ceremonies, school of the battalion, manual, loading and firing and military courtesy very good. It has well maintained its high reputation as a well disciplined, well drilled and most reliable regiment. It is strong in numbers and steadily progressing in everything pertaining to a first class organization.

Sixteenth Regiment.—Discipline, military appearance, and steadiness excellent. . . . The *esprit de corps*, *personnel* discipline, and drill of this command are fully maintained and steadily progressing. Officers and men manifest an earnest desire to improve in all that pertains to the duties of a soldier. This regiment is one of the strongest, most efficient, and reliable in the service.

Seventeenth Regiment.—This regiment is composed, principally, of a good class of German and German-American mechanics, shows quite an improvement in the last year, having weeded out much of its poor material, and recruited about 150 young men of a better class. Everything looks promising for a steady improvement in numbers, drill, and discipline in this regiment.

Eighteenth Regiment.—The organization is composed of excellent material, and now that the new armory being built by the State is rapidly progressing towards completion, a feeling of renewed activity and interest is being manifested, with excellent prospect of rapidly filling up its ranks.

Nineteenth Regiment.—After giving an account of the fair progress of this regiment in camp, the report concludes with the remark that it can now be classed as a fairly well disciplined, efficient, and reliable. Col. Ward is described as an able officer.

Twentieth Regiment.—This command is one of the strongest in the service, and composed of an intelligent class of Irish and Irish-Americans—tradesmen, mechanics, and working men. What is needed to make this one of the best drilled and most effective regiments in the State is a young, active, and capable corps of line officers—officers that can command the respect and willing obedience of their men. There are a few such now in the regiment, and the good drill and discipline of their commands is an evidence of the high estimation in which they are held as popular and efficient officers. Competency, harmony, firmer administration of affairs, more attention paid to the keeping of books of record and of State property, theoretical instruction of officers and non-commissioned officers, the enforcement of discipline, a more thorough system of instruction in the school of the soldier and company, and frequent company inspections, are needed to place this regiment where it rightfully belongs.

Twenty-first Regiment.—Arms in poor condition. A number unserviceable, comparatively few of the men having any knowledge of the proper care of the rifle. The entire stand needs a thorough overhauling. This command entered the State Camp very much off in its drill, and with considerable raw material, that had but little, if any, instruction in the school of the soldier. Company commanders and non-commissioned officers, as a rule, were deficient in knowledge pertaining to their respective duties. The enlisted men (Americans) are of a good class; and their quiet, orderly conduct, attention to duty and eagerness to learn was generally remarked and commended. The routine duties prescribed by the regimental commander were carried out during the entire week, but, as a rule, lacked that promptness for appearance in time which is so necessary to be observed. Little attention was paid to instruction in the school of the soldier. The company drills were, for the most part, hurried and superficial; confined, as a general thing, to simple movements, right in front, or by the right flank, without being thoroughly and properly explained. Progress in the school of the battalion was slow, but an improvement was shown from day to day. The same might be said regarding guard duty. More progress was manifested in the ceremonies of guard mounting and dress-parade, and also in military courtesy.

Twenty-second Regiment.—There has been during the last year a great change for the better in the personnel. The Colonel has infused new life into the command; the dead wood has been cut off; recruiting had been brisk almost up to the date of encampment. With 123 recruits in the ranks, who had had but little, if any opportunity to receive instruction in the school of the soldier, the regiment settled down to its allotted work with a will and energy hardly to be expected, which was continued to the last with good result. From first to last the men were willing and obedient, and as soon as recruits realized what military discipline meant, a steady and gratifying improvement was discerned. In instruction in the school of the soldier, etc., was not as thorough as it should have been.

NATIONAL GUARD AS LANDWEHR.

GENERAL O. B. Wilcox, U. S. Army, winds up his report of the New York camp with the following remarks: "As the National Guard has supplanted the old militia, it may be regarded as the first Army reserve to be called out in case of war, and steps should be taken to increase, strengthen, and improve it for both State and National purposes. What are twelve thousand soldiers partially equipped, little drilled, and kept up by voluntary rules of discipline, to a population in its own State of five millions of people! The question of improving, increasing, and utilizing the National Guard as a national reserve, or sort of Landwehr, is one of great nicety, and calls for discussion by our military thinkers and writers. The National Guard of the Empire State of New York goes into camp one week in two years; the Landwehr, in Germany, eight weeks every year."

CARE OF ARMS.

It is difficult to reconcile the fact of the great advance made by the National Guard of New York in rifle firing with the statement made by the Inspector General, in his report, that so many organizations are deficient in the care of the rifle. A marksman who does not understand how to keep his gun in order falls just as much short of being a good soldier as a man who knows how to handle his piece on drill and keep it in order, but cannot hit a barn door. The musket is the soldier's tool. He should know how to handle it, keep it clean, and also possess reasonable skill in hitting objects with it. If he falls short in any of these points his instruction is by just as much defective. That cases of this sort should be so numerous in the Guard reflects but little credit on the company commanders, who are the ones to see that their men are instructed in all the details which make up the good soldier. A thorough knowledge of the mechanism of his piece on the part of every man who carries a gun is most essential, and not only this, the company commander should endeavor to cultivate among his men a spirit of pride in the condition of their muskets as well as in their dress and personal appearance.

It being plain, however, that this is not the case, it becomes the duty of the authorities in charge of the Guard to take the matter in hand, and to this end we recommend that company commanders be specially charged with the instruction of their men in the care of their muskets, and that lessons, in which the taking apart and putting together, the nomenclature, and the cleaning of rifles are taught, be embodied in the regular programme of instruction of the Guard.

A PERMANENT HEAD FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD.

The New York National Guard is certainly a most conservative body, but as the world moves on it is drawn along in the universal and irresistible progress, morbid and impractical notions are gradually giving way to healthy modern ideas, and the narrow views of the militia are expanding. Thus, it has actually come to pass that a large portion of the State soldiery begin to realize the evil of changing the *de facto* head of the Guard (the Adjutant-General), with the advent of every new Governor. There is no doubt that this pernicious practice forms one of the weightiest impediments in the road of progress of the Guard, and as such we have pointed it out on many occasions. The experience necessary to successfully administer the affairs of a body of 16,000 or 20,000 men under the peculiar laws governing the citizen soldiery of the country cannot be acquired in a day. The term allotted to the Adjutant-General of New York is just about sufficient to give him a good idea of his task. When he has mastered this knowledge he has to step out without the opportunity to develop whatever plans he may have formed. When he has left he probably knows what should have been done, but all that remains for him is the reflection that after all there is a time when it is too late to mend. Meanwhile his successor begins at the same point where he himself began three years ago, and the Guard keeps plodding without headway under the weight of a number of half developed schemes; and thus it goes from one administration to the other, numerous schemes for reform and improvement constantly turning up, but few ever attaining full development. Under these circumstances a permanent non-political, competent commander, whether called Adjutant-General, Lieutenant-General, or Major-General, who stands between the troops and the Governor, and holds his office without reference to a change of administration, has become an absolute necessity, and the movements towards passing a law for his appointment deserves the support of all friends of the Guard.

TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK.—Colonel Josiah Porter.—In spite of the powerful attraction of Gilmore's full band, the turnout of the regiment in full dress uniform for inspection and presentation of marksmen's badges, on Friday evening, February 8, was not a success in a numerical respect, the whole number answering roll call amounting to only about 475 all told. Can it be that this regiment thinks that, by establishing an honorable record last year, it has fulfilled all requirements forever, and is it possible that it intends to "travel on that record" in future as has been done only too frequently by other organizations in similar cases? We had reason to believe differently, but an unsatisfactory turnout on an important occasion like this naturally produces the impression that something is wrong beyond the dilapidated condition of the armory, and the fact that some of the companies are not as ably commanded as should be the case in a first class organization, which boasts of a record like the 22d. The first part of the programme, the dress parade, was quite satisfactory as a show, and with the magnificent music and the brilliant white coats, set off advantageously by the blue trousers, produced a quite striking spectacle; while the bearing of the men was firm and the manual well executed. This was the effect from a distance to a non-professional eye. The inspection which followed, however, revealed a somewhat different state of affairs. Col. Porter, after marching around the hall in column of fours, broke the command into column of companies, and halted it so as to have one wing drawn up along the 14th and the other along the 15th Street side of the armory, with the band in the centre. He then made a personal, very minute inspection of the command, which revealed the fact that a large number of the coats are not in good condition, partly from long service and partly from lack of proper care. The blame for this rests largely on the company commanders who fail to establish a proper supervision of the uniforms, neglecting to divide their commands, for this purpose, into squads under the care of non-commissioned officers. We were surprised to see this lack of system in a regiment which is, apparently, run on strictly practical, military principles. During the inspection there were a number of unsteady men in some of the left companies. The badges were presented by Col. Porter, immediately after the parade, in the usual manner.

Companies C, D, G, I and K, opened the battalion drill season on Monday evening, Feb. 11, with an equalization of 16 files each. At the suggestion of Adj. Harding the company formation was repeated on the ground that it is tactically incorrect as well as unnecessary in view of the equalization and distribution of details, which invariably takes place at battalion drills in the National Guard, to have the companies form in single rank to be sized previous to the roll call, and at the second attempt the companies formed in double rank and the rolls were called as stated in tactics in the beginning of the school of the company. The battalion then formed without further interruption, and Col. Porter then formed with a number of advances in line, which were quite well executed, and followed with a prolonged drill in the loadings and firings, which included the entire series of exercises which come under that head. Leaving matters of detail, the correction of which properly belongs to the school of the company out of consideration, this part of the drill was reasonably satisfactory. Passing to the marching: he opened with a column of fours, from which he executed a number of formations of line on right and left and to the front, and then exercised the battalion in breaking into fours and into companies from both flanks in succession. The instruction was minute, particular attention being paid to a matter which is generally neglected at battalion drills—the repetition of command, by company commanders in an audible tone and correct manner. This caused a number of repetitions of all the movements and consumed a great deal of time, so that there was not so much variety as the length of the drill might lead to expect. But everything was done thoroughly, even to general alignments, which on account of some diversity of practice of the several officers engaged had to be repeated at least half a dozen times before they became satisfactory to the Colonel. As a means of instruction the drill served its purpose, although it was not up to the standard of the 22d Regiment.

VERMONT.

The commissioned officers of the militia will meet for instruction and drill at Burlington, Feb. 23 and 29, 1884. Col. W. L. Greenleaf, of the 1st Regiment, is designated to arrange and conduct the details of instruction.

The officers of the National Guard have been ordered to Burlington for annual instruction on February 28 and 29, reporting in fatigue uniform, with side arms, at the American Hotel, on the first named day. The routine of duties will consist of practicing company movements and reciting battalion movements and ceremonies. At the evening session, Thursday, 28th, Lieut. H. E. Tuthery, U. S. A., will address the officers on the subject of "Guard Duty," and after the address the ceremony will be performed by the Students' Battalion of the University of Vermont, under the direction of Lieut. Tuthery. Lieut. Col. J. J. Eady is hereby detailed

as instructor in company movements, and Major A. D. Tenney as instructor in manual of the sword.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Brig.-Gen. Elbert Wheeler has been ordered to make the annual inspection of the National Guard, notifying the officers concerned of the dates he selects for the purpose.

MARYLAND.

The 5th Regiment of Maryland will leave Baltimore on February 21, for New Orleans, La., to attend the Mardi Gras celebration in the latter city on February 26. The regiment will wear the 400 new regulation helmet recently made by Messrs. J. H. McKenney and Co. of New York.

MINNESOTA.

The National Guard has had some practical services recently that has tested its efficiency. In November last the work shops at the State prison, Stillwater, were destroyed by fire and Co. K, 1st Regt., was called out to assist in removing the convicts in case of danger to the building. They were on guard the greater portion of the night. On the morning of the Jan. 26th, (Saturday) a fire broke out in the prison buildings and completely destroyed them. Co. K was again on duty and did heroic service in removing the 300 convicts from their cells to the foundry building. One convict was smothered in his cell. A general alarm was sounded at St. Paul at 4 A. M. and Companies C, D and E under Col. Bond, took the 6 o'clock train for Stillwater and relieved Co. K; they in turn were relieved on Monday by Companies A, B and I of Minneapolis, who remained until Friday, Feb. 1st. During the week the convicts were housed in one room in the foundry and guard kept day and night by the troops in the building and on the prison walls. About one hundred of the more desperate convicts were conveyed under military escort to the various county jails, and brought back in the same way at the end of the week, when a temporary roof was put on the cell building. The prison guard consisted of twenty-five posts and the troops had performed plenty of trying work with good, effective and earnest discipline, but perhaps the guarding of the prisoners might have been done with fewer men. However the danger of a revolt among the convicts, who had little between them and freedom and the prospects of camping out in Minnesota winter weather led to an overdose of caution. The troops were quartered in the car shops just outside the prison walls, and as the first contingent from St. Paul went in a hurry they were poorly provided and many had to content themselves with plank beds. The Minneapolis contingent came better equipped with blankets and improvised cots. The men manifested a good soldierly spirit and generally did their duty without complaint. In the absence of a State Commissariat the men were fed at neighboring hotels and boarding houses as well as could be done, and during the first days the food was poor and insufficient. Col. Bond was on the ground all the time and personally superintended the work, assisted by Maj. Naylor, Surgeon Davenport and Asst. Surgeon Fitzgerald. Gov. Hubbard and Adj. Gen. MacCarthy were at Stillwater nearly every day during the week; and in a general order published, Gov. Hubbard complimented Col. Bond and the officers and men of his command.

Notwithstanding the fatigue of a week's guard duty, division drills ordered for the following week took place with a good attendance. At the Minneapolis Armory, Cos. A, B, and I, to the number of 120 men, assembled Monday evening, Col. Bond and Major Naylor. The assembly was prompt, but the formation was slow and irregular. The troops were in full dress, and generally looked well and drilled well; some few men had their belts too loose, and they dragged on the left hip. The service belts are not a handsome article at best for dress assembly, and they need to be properly fastened. The men wore their helmets indifferently, some to far forward and some back on their necks. This gives a very uneven appearance to the line. One man wore his helmet without top plate or spike, and another was without gloves. These little things cannot be overlooked on dress parade. They marched well and steadily, but the manual was uneven. The movements were confined to division drills, the battalion being divided into three divisions of six companies. Some of the companies were in single rank and some in double; this retards very much the correctness and evenness of execution. The drill lasted an hour and forty-five minutes without rest, which is a mistake, for towards the close the men were fatigued and consequently did not drill well. After a three minutes' rest drill was resumed, and after one-half hour followed by dress parade.

Tuesday evening Cos. C, D, and E assembled at the armory, St. Paul, for division drill in fatigue uniform. This drill was better in some respects and in others not up to the Minneapolis battalion. Col. Bond works earnestly and hard in the interest of his regiment. The assembly and formation was prompt. The guides were not well up in their duties. Some of them have a habit of executing an officer's about face. This is bad enough when going to their posts, but when required to face at their posts is certain to spoil the alignment. On the march the step was quick and too long; this gave a swinging motion to the men of Co. D, while the smaller men in the other companies lost the ground and were frequently out of step. The movements generally were good and the manual of arms fair. These division and battalion drills will certainly prove of great advantage to the 1st Regiment when it goes into camp. The companies of the 2d Regiment are located in several towns of the State apart from one another, with no opportunities for battalion drills except at their annual encampments.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Irishmen, as the old saying has it, "are born to fight," and those south of Mason and Dixon's line in 1861 were not slow in taking advantage of the recent unpleasantness to have a little of the fun. How well they maintained the reputation of the over Green Isle is hardly for me to say. They were not backward in coming forward, nor were they lacking in the field and first out of it. What our gallant Irish brigade was to the Northern Army, the soldiers of the same nationality were to the Confederate force, and though they were not massed, and thus given a chance to work for the glory of Old Ireland, by showing that her sons in the South when engaged in a quarrel had not forgotten old traditions, the records show that whenever engaged they were last to falter and never turned their backs on an enemy. I suppose you are by this time wondering what I am leading up to, and what the Irish soldier of the late Southern Army has to do with the action of the Governor of North Carolina and his change of the color of the uniforms. And well you may! But we have here an Irish organization which has changed its uniform, without waiting for the orders of the Governor.

I refer to the Irish Volunteers of Charleston, who have reorganized and elected Major W. E. Brees, of the Carolina Rifle Battalion and cashier of the First National Bank, as its captain. Internal troubles which so nearly caused the destruction of the company have entirely ceased. We are recruiting rapidly, and now number 60 all told, with C. A. McHugh—member of Assembly—as our 1st lieutenant, and H. C. Mandeville, a fine soldier, as second. We have just purchased a handsome uniform, similar to that worn by the Irish Brigade in the Austrian service, with the necessary modern changes—rock coat, light blue trousers, white helmet, etc. The contrast for us was given to W. C. Boyan, 123 Grand street, New York City, and the good fit and fine workmanship fully justified the cordance reposed in him. The Irish Volunteers will parade in their new uniforms on Washington's Birthday, and I will take great pleasure in sending you an account of their doings.

CANADIAN MILITIA.

From a recent report we learn that the total strength of the Canadian militia is 37,000, and it cost last year to keep it up \$734,000. The several branches of service are divided up as follows: Cavalry—3 regiments, 2 squadrons, and 4 independent troops. Field Artillery—1 brigade and 17 batteries. Garrison Artillery—2 regiments, 5 brigades, and 18

independent batteries. There are also 93 battalions of infantry and 13 independent companies. Out of the total expenditures only \$256,000 was expended on account of drill, the greater portion of the money being laid out in keeping up a large staff. Gen. Luard, in charge of the militia, reports that in the interest of the country a staff of engineers should be enrolled to construct and repair fortifications. There still remains on the pension roll 70 militiamen and widows of militiamen of the War of 1812. There are also 787 veterans of the War of 1812 who receive a gratuity.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DOUBTFUL asks: What is the proper uniform of a retired Army officer? **Ans.**—That of the regiment or corps in which he was serving when retired, except that the number of the regiment should not be worn on the cap or shoulder.

SUFFERER asks: What is being done so that the General Service clerks will be paid the extra duty pay, payment of which is now suspended? **Ans.**—A deficiency bill to cover the extra duty pay since July 1, 1883, was sent to Congress some time since, but action on it is not expected until late in the session. There will inform them that there is no doubt about its being passed.

E. L.—Your enlistment as a musician will much depend upon your qualifications. If you desire to enter the West Point Band you had better write to the adjutant there and state your qualifications, etc.

L. C. C. asks: Who succeeded Major Throckmorton in command of Light Battery B, 4th U. S. Artillery? **Ans.**—Captain John Egan, 4th U. S. Artillery.

CANDIDATE asks: Can a man enlist as a school teacher in the Army, and what qualifications are necessary? **Ans.**—There is no grade of Army school teacher. He can enlist as a soldier, and if possessing the necessary qualifications (a good English scholar), will, doubtless, speedily be assigned to some post (and there are several) where school teachers are needed.

FORT ROBINSON, NEB., says: Am I qualified to volunteer for the Arctic Sea; am I, healthy, and so forth? **Ans.**—Volunteers have not yet been called for, but you might mention your desire to your company commander, and see what he advises.

SOLDIER asks: the names of the officers and first sergeant of Co. G, 52d New York Vols., at the date the regiment was mustered out? **Ans.**—1st Lieut. William Westerhild, 2d Lieut. Dennis Clarkson, and 1st Sgt. Chas. Field.

OLD DOMINION asks: the shortest distance from Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., to San Francisco, according to the "Official Table of Distances." **Ans.**—3,222 miles, via Route's Point, Ogdenburg, Fremont, Fort Union, Chicago, and Omaha.

MILES asks: 1. Is the form of company order submitted by me correct? 2. Can you furnish a company roll book? **Ans.**—1. Yes. 2. We do not know what you mean by a company roll book, but if you refer to a company roster you can procure one from G. W. Middleton, 55 State street, Chicago, Ill.

G. L. M. asks: the address of the chief officer of the G. A. R. **Ans.**—252 Broadway, New York City.

A CORRESPONDENT from Wisconsin states: that on the incorporation of the company of which he was a member into the 2d Regiment he was appointed and warranted Sergeant Major by the Colonel; that he still holds the warrant; that the troops of the State come together but once a year, the only time he has duties to perform, and that the officers of his former company insist that his promotion is in the nature of a detail to be Sergeant Major when the regiment is together, and that he still remains a private in the company. Is the Captain right? **Ans.**—He is wrong. Your appointment as Sergeant Major transferred you to the regimental non-com. staff, and you have no more to do with the company as a member. State your case to the Colonel, who will doubtless see you right.

A CORRESPONDENT asks: 1. An officer who mounted guard in the morning as officer of the day approaches the guard at retreat without side arms. What is the proper course of the Sergeant, he not being notified if the officer has been relieved or not? 2. A squad in single rank. Is it proper to move by the flank in double time at all times? See par. 5 and 42, Upton's A. M. 1. A case like that proposed is hardly possible in a properly regulated command. An officer, however, who so far forgets himself, commits a grave breach of discipline, and is not entitled to recognition by the guard as officer of the day. 2. There is no objection to the movement in either paragraph you cite.

OHIO asks: 1. When will there be a vacancy for West Point at large? 2. How long beforehand should a person apply for an appointment, and who to? 3. Is it necessary for a person to be an Army or Navy officer's son? **Ans.**—1. June, 1885. 2. Any time. Either to the President or Secretary of War. 3. No.

G. W. asks: In what Districts of New York City will there be vacancies at the Naval Academy, this coming examination? **Ans.**—There are thirteen vacancies in all from this State. At the request of members of Congress the Department will not furnish publication the districts in which these vacancies occur. If G. W. will state the particular district or districts in which he is interested the information will be given.

C. M. S. asks: Have we a new Cavalry Tactics again? **Ans.**—No. The U. S. Army Cavalry Tactics approved in 1873 (see G. O. 6 of that year) are still in force.

M. D. asks: how many vacancies there are in the Medical Corps of the Navy, and when the Examining Board will meet again. **Ans.**—Four vacancies. Board now in session at Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT OMAHA, NEB.

FEBRUARY 12, 1884.

WINTER'S reign is still upon us, and instead of being daily confined to the post with numberless drills, the officers have abundant leisure for the splendid sleighing along the avenue leading from the fort to the city of Omaha. The most important feature of the past year to the post has been the connection of the garrison with the city water works, affording complete protection in case of fire; the construction of the new brick guard house, and the erection of a double set of brick officers' quarters on the north of the splendid residence built for Gen. Crook, when Department Headquarters was at the post instead of the city.

The present topic of interest is the approaching wedding of Miss Woolworth, a cultivated lady of Omaha, and Lieut. Howard, A. D. C. Our rich bachelor commanding officer, Major DeRussy, is one of the groomsmen, the others being Lieut. Treat, of "Ours;" Lieut. Coffin, of the Light Battery, 5th Artillery, and Lieut. Greble, now on duty at the Fort Leavenworth school. It was ordained that all the bachelor groomsmen should be of free and merry heart, but at the last moment some enterprising Jenkins at the post has spread the rumor that "Greble is, alas! engaged." The "best man" is to be a married officer, Lieut. Kingman, of the Engineers. The fair bridesmaids are Miss Woolworth, of Brooklyn, a cousin of the bride, and Misses Millard, Rose, and Richardson, of Omaha. The wedding will occur on St. Valentine's Day, followed by a reception at the bride's residence, a short bridal trip to Cincinnati following the reception. Mr. Woolworth is a wealthy lawyer of Omaha, and has presented his daughter with a \$7,000 residence in the city, which is now being prepared for occupation.

During the absence of Gen. Howard, on leave in Europe, the command will in all probability be assumed by General Schofield, and orders issued from Chicago. Gen. Howard's son James, who is now making a trip on the continent on his bicycle, will return with the General.

One of the stories told to show the value of presence of mind in times of excitement and danger, is concerning some recent riots in New Orleans. The mob was threatening and increasing, and the local militia were called out. At a crisis in the affair one of the citizen-soldiers levelled his musket at a prominent opponent, when the man next to him struck up the gun, exclaiming, "Don't shoot that man—his life's insured in our office!"

VIENNA, Austria, has been much agitated this week, owing to well-founded rumors of a plot to assassinate the Emperor, and the discovery of large quantities of dynamite. The troops have been kept under arms and other precautionary measures taken.

It is stated in the *Daily Telegraph* of Tuesday that a few days since a private in the Hampshire Regiment, at Gosport, called upon the Almighty to strike him blind. A little while afterwards he felt drowsy, and threw himself on a bed. On trying to open his eyes he could not do so, and he is now under treatment in the Haslar Military Hospital, not having recovered his sight.

The Royal Marine Office is making provision for the better equipment and manning of a battalion of Royal Marines when ordered on foreign service, both as regards material as well as personnel, and especially as regards the clerical staff. The question of transport and Army signalling is also being considered, and likely to come into force before long. The Admiralty, we are informed, are not adverse to these improvements.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* exclaims, in bitterness of spirit: The *Polyphenus*, that "hideous, misshapen monster," and monstrous failure, which has cost the country nearly half a million of money, is taking in new boilers un-

der the sheers at Portsmouth. What a pity that four fast cruisers were not built with the money wasted on this long-foretold failure!

A NUMBER of large guns destined for coast defence, and for the armament of iron-clads, are now being made at the Buelle Foundry, near Angoulême, which has always made a specialty of supplying the French artillery. There are two types of guns in course of construction, both breech-loaders. One is of steel, and the other of cast iron, banded with steel. The weight of each is 98 tons; the projectile weighs 15% cwt., and the charge is 5% cwt. The transport of these guns will require the construction of special sixteen-wheel wagons.

It appears as if the question of adopting a repeating rifle in the French Army were approaching a final decision. Col. Gras has been sent by the Minister of War to the small arms factory of Châtelleraut to examine and report on the two models respecting the adoption of which the select committee, presided over by General Dumont are as yet undecided. The system which, it is thought, will in all probability be definitely introduced shortly is a quick loading arrangement which may be fixed and removed at pleasure below the breech piece. Thus the transformation of the present armament of the French infantry could be effected rapidly and proportionately cheaply. Experiments were recently carried out at Versailles by the Second Battalion of Rifles, with 200 Vetterli and 100 Werndl rifles (the latter probably provided with Werndl's quick loading apparatus).

ALTHOUGH the principle of the magazine rifle has been accepted for the German Army, no definite decision has yet been arrived at as to the peculiar form of mechanism to be adopted. It is urged by many experienced officers that the calibre of the Mauser rifle (.45 in.) does not represent the lowest limit suitable for a military arm, and that the general introduction into the army of the repeating rifle should,

therefore, be deferred until a smaller bore has been adopted. Among the latest models of magazine guns sent to the German War Office for trial is one constructed by Messrs. Vornmeller, Simson and Luck, of Suhl, which is favorably spoken of in military circles. This arm belongs to that class of which the "Spencer" is the prototype, being fitted with a magazine in the butt, into which twelve cartridges can be inserted. Captain Zimbaluk, a Russian cavalry officer, has invented an apparatus which, when attached to the Berdan rifle, enables that rifle to be discharged fifteen and twenty times in a minute. General Goarko has expressed himself satisfied of the utility of this apparatus, and a considerable number has been ordered for experimental purposes.

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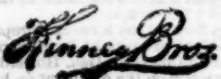
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BATLY—SIMONS.—At Baltimore, January 30, M. ROGERS BATLY
to Miss FANNIE SIMONS, daughter of Lieut. Colonel James SIMONS,
U. S. Army, retired.

BELEKNAP—BRODHEAD.—At Port Jervis, N. Y., February 7, WARD
BELEKNAP, of Newburg, N. Y., to CAROLINE VINGERLA, daughter of
Edgar Brodhead, formerly of the U. S. Navy.

HOWARD—WOOLWORTH.—At Trinity Cathedral, Omaha, Feb. 14,
Lieutenant GUY HOWARD, U. S. Army, Aide de Camp, to Miss
JEANIE WOOLWORTH.

HOWELL—ATRE.—At Washington Barracks, D. C., Wednesday
February 6, Captain REINHOLD G. HOWELL, 2d Artillery, and EMILY D.
ATRE, daughter of General R. B. ATRE.

DIED.

ARNOLD.—At Winchester, Mass., February 8, CARRIE A., daugh-
ter of Julia M. and the late General Lewis G. Arnold, U. S. A.

BRADFORD.—At Wilmington, Del., Jan. 16, Judge E. G. BRAD-
FORD, father of Captain J. H. Bradford, 19th U. S. Infantry.

BUCKETT.—At Newport Barracks, Ky., Feb. 8, by drowning,
Musician WILLIAM BUCKETT, Battery G, 2d U. S. Artillery, aged
20 years and 5 months.

TREVINO.—At Old Point Comfort, Va., Feb. 10, Mrs. TREVINO,
wife of General Trevino of Mexico, and daughter of the late
General E. O. C. Ord, U. S. Army.

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